

1. Illustrate the demographic distribution of the Indian Diaspora and its implications for the foreign policy of India.

Answer:

According to the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, India has the second largest Diaspora in the world after overseas Chinese. The overseas Indian community estimated at over 25 million is spread across every major region in the world. The Indian Diaspora includes Non-resident Indians, overseas Indians and People of India origin. A non-resident Indian (NRI) is a citizen of India who holds an Indian passport and has temporarily immigrated to another country for six months or more for employment, residence, education or any other purpose.

The Indian Diaspora has spread from Nepal to Australia to EU and East-Africa with significant population in Nepal , USA , Myanmar , Malaysia , Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates , etc.

India is the largest recipient of remittances . Indian Diaspora is living in almost all the parts of the world, except South America in a considerable number. In the Middle East they mostly go on unskilled and semi skilled employment whereas in the Western countries they go in skilled jobs and professional employments. Both kinds of Indian emigrants require support from their parent country right from support for passport and visa to safeguarding their rights overseas. They need support at the times of crisis such as civil wars, terrorism or exploitation. The Indian foreign policy needs to be sensitive and proactive in these regard as India is a human resources surplus country and since it is a major supplier of human resources to various parts of the world, there must be an institutionalized support system right from employment to security at the place where they go. India should enter into agreements with the countries, where the Indian Diaspora is in large number to ensure their safety and equal opportunity as far as possible. India can also offer attractive terms and conditions to the India Diaspora to come as investors in the country and for the promotion of science and technology in particular and education in general. The Indian Diaspora can lobby in favour of India for image building and flow of Foreign Direct Investment in the country.

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Answer the following Questions

1. The implementation of a scheme with such scale and benefit as Ayushman Bharat is likely to face many obstacles. Critically discuss. (150 words)
2. Given the fact that India cannot match China's financial clout, it is seen to be diversifying the ways in which it can enhance cooperation and promote its diplomatic profile in Africa. Discuss. (150 words)