

IMPACT OF GULF MIGRATION ON KERALA ECONOMY

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ABSTRACT

Gulf migration has served as an important factor in the development scenario of Kerala for the last many decades. Gulf economies are opened to foreign workforces in the 1970s in the wake of a spike in oil prices. To meet their construction activities, they welcomed labour of all categories. In this emigration process, Kerala occupied a special status. During 1998-2014, the largest number of emigrants originated from the Muslim-dominated Malappuram district. The total remittances to Kerala in 2014 are estimated to be Rs.71, 142crores, according to Kerala Migration Study (KMS) .Although Gulf emigrants have contributed a lot to the development of Kerala, recently, the return of emigrants and their rehabilitation is creating so many problems in the State.

KEYWORDS: *Emigration, Foreign Remittances, Oil Boom, Rehabilitation, Unemployment*