

**Quarterly Report on Remittance Inflows:
October-December 2017¹**



**Bangladesh Bank
Research Department
External Economics Division**

¹Comments on any aspects of the report are highly welcome and can be sent to Mohammad Masuduzzaman, Deputy General Manager, Research Department, Bangladesh Bank E-mail: mohammad.masud@bb.org.bd and Ms. Shampa Chakraborty, Joint Director, Research Department, Bangladesh Bank. E-mail:shampa.chakraborty@bb.org.bd.

Quarterly Report on Remittance Inflows

Preparation Team

Editor

Dr. Md. Akhtaruzzaman, Economic adviser

Co-Editor

Mahfuza Akther, General Manager

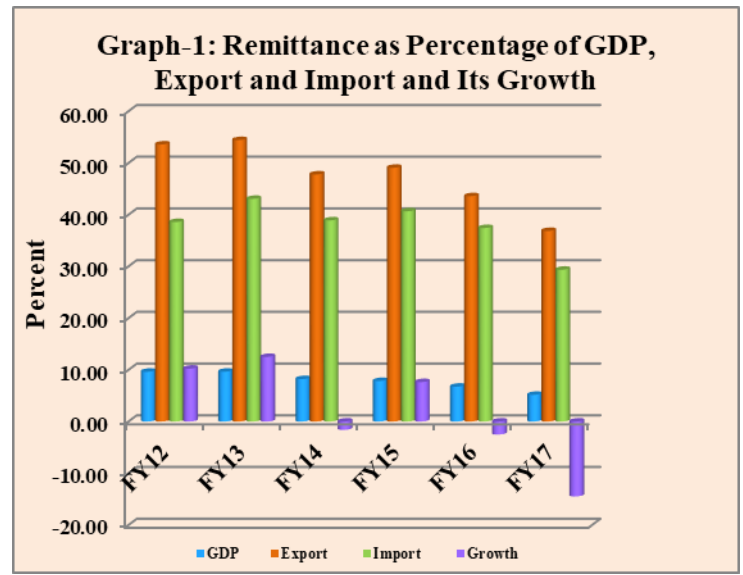
Team Members

Mohammad Masduzzaman, Deputy General Manager

Shampa Chakraborty, Joint director

Introduction

Remittance is the second highest source of foreign currency earning in Bangladesh next to exports of readymade garments (RMG). However, in terms of net earning remittance can be considered as the top source since in case of RMG a significant portion of earnings is foregone for importing its raw materials. Remittance plays an important role on the overall economy of Bangladesh. World Bank ranked Bangladesh as eighth in the world



and third in the South Asia Region for remittance inflow based on the information of 2016. Bangladesh joined in the 10 billion USD club of remittance inflow in FY10.

Foreign employment and remittance sent by the Bangladeshi expatriates have immense contribution to the economic development of Bangladesh such as lowering unemployment, poverty alleviation and swelling up foreign exchange reserve. The pattern and use of remittance is the most important factor for economic development. If expatriates' earnings are invested in productive fields, they can contribute to output growth, employment, etc. In addition, remittance plays a supportive role in boosting up current account surplus.

Gross remittance earnings decreased by 14.5 percent to USD 12769.5 million in FY17 compared to USD 14931.16 million of FY16. It is 5.17 percent of country's GDP, 49.2 percent of total export earnings and 29.4 percent of import payments (f.o.b) in FY17 (Table-1).

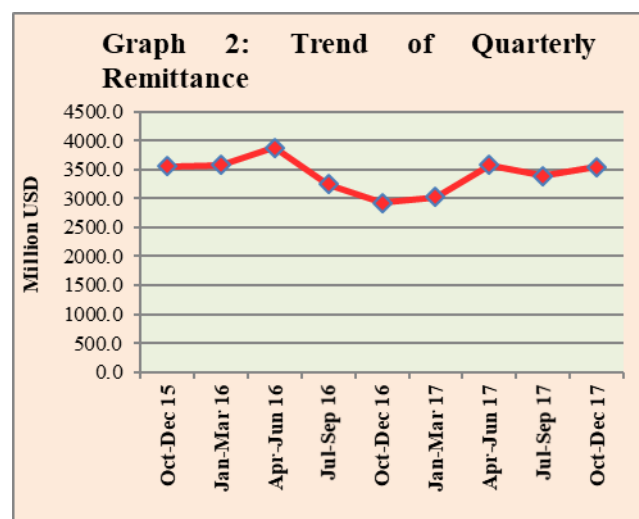
Table-1: Remittance as Percentage of GDP, Export and Import and its Growth

| FY | Remittance as % of GDP | Remittance as % of Export Earnings (f.o.b) | Remittance as % of Import Payments (f.o.b) | Growth (%) of Remittance |
|------|------------------------|--|--|--------------------------|
| FY07 | 7.51 | 49.60 | 38.54 | 24.50 |
| FY08 | 8.64 | 55.93 | 40.62 | 32.39 |
| FY09 | 9.44 | 62.11 | 47.70 | 22.28 |
| FY10 | 9.52 | 67.80 | 46.29 | 13.40 |
| FY11 | 9.05 | 50.64 | 34.61 | 6.03 |
| FY12 | 9.63 | 53.58 | 38.59 | 10.24 |
| FY13 | 9.64 | 54.43 | 43.07 | 12.51 |
| FY14 | 8.21 | 47.78 | 38.91 | -1.61 |
| FY15 | 7.85 | 49.08 | 40.67 | 7.64 |
| FY16 | 6.74 | 43.59 | 37.42 | -2.51 |
| FY17 | 5.17 | 49.22 | 29.36 | -14.48 |

Remittance Inflows: October-December 2017

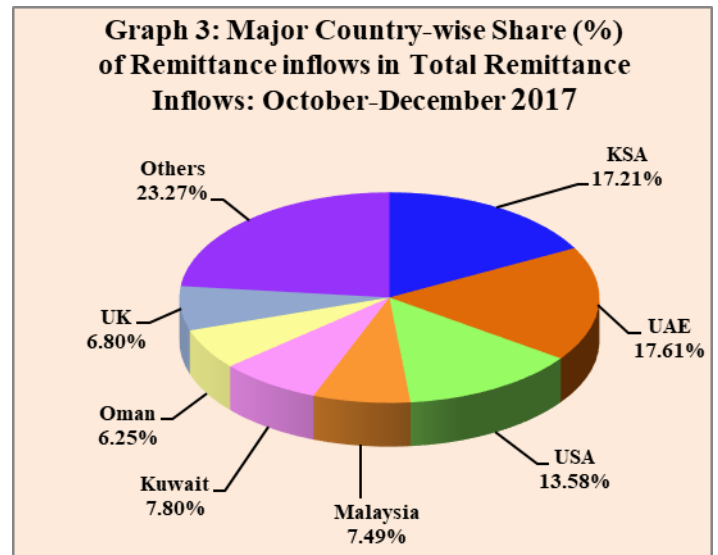
Remittance sent by the Bangladeshi expatriates stood at USD 3541.34 million during the 2nd quarter of FY18 (October-December 2017), which is 4.43 percent and 21.23 percent higher than the previous quarter and the same quarter of the preceding year respectively. During the quarter under report, increase in remittance was primarily

due to higher number of migration to most of the source countries in the previous quarter. In addition, legal actions taken by the Government of some of the source countries against using informal channel for sending remittance might have had positive impact to boost remittance through formal channel.



Country wise Remittance Inflows

Country-wise remittance inflow during October-December 2017 shows that the largest amount of remittance has been received from UAE (USD 623.48 million), which is 17.6 percent of total remittance inflows (**Graph-3**), followed by, KSA (17.2 percent), USA (13.6 percent), Kuwait (7.8 percent), Malaysia (7.5 percent), United Kingdom (6.8 percent), Oman (6.3 percent) and other countries (23.3 percent). Region-wise



remittance inflows shows that 57.4 percent of total remittances has been received from the Gulf¹ countries during October-December quarter of FY18, followed by EU³ countries (11.6 percent), Asia-Pacific² countries (9.8 percent), and other countries (7.7 percent). The amount of remittances received from Gulf countries stood at USD 2032.7 million during the 2nd quarter of FY18 which is 8.4 percent and 19.5 percent higher than the previous and the corresponding quarter of the previous year respectively (**Table-2**). Though the amount of remittance inflows from Asia-Pacific increased by 8.3 percent but that from EU countries decreased by 8.5 percent during the quarter under report compared to the previous quarter.

¹Gulf Countries are KSA, UAE, Qatar, Oman, Bahrain, Kuwait, Libya and Iran.

²Asia-Pacific countries are Japan, Malaysia and Singapore.

³EU countries are United Kingdom, Germany and Italy.

Table-2: Country group wise Remittance Inflows

(Million USD)

| | Oct-Dec' 16 | Jan-Mar' 17 | April-June'17 | July-Sep'17 | Oct-Dec' 17 |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Gulf Countries | 1701.65 | 1711.59 | 2041.07 | 1875.28 | 2032.68 |
| | <i>58.25</i> | <i>56.53</i> | <i>57.10</i> | <i>55.30</i> | <i>57.40</i> |
| KSA | 541.40 | 515.14 | 607.06 | 591.99 | 609.42 |
| UAE | 468.89 | 482.43 | 587.49 | 514.70 | 623.48 |
| Qatar | 132.95 | 140.31 | 168.44 | 164.08 | 174.70 |
| Oman | 201.93 | 215.17 | 250.92 | 229.78 | 221.18 |
| Bahrain | 96.84 | 114.82 | 141.48 | 123.71 | 127.12 |
| Kuwait | 259.03 | 243.26 | 285.18 | 250.68 | 276.25 |
| Libya | 0.61 | 0.45 | 0.50 | 0.34 | 0.53 |
| Iran | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| EU Countries | 266.78 | 371.54 | 408.74 | 448.26 | 410.21 |
| | <i>9.13</i> | <i>12.27</i> | <i>11.43</i> | <i>13.22</i> | <i>11.58</i> |
| United Kingdom | 159.70 | 239.02 | 240.54 | 257.98 | 240.7 |
| Germany | 7.41 | 7.05 | 11.04 | 8.05 | 10.23 |
| Italy | 99.67 | 125.47 | 157.16 | 182.23 | 159.28 |
| Asia-Pacific Countries | 348.41 | 303.79 | 361.00 | 318.76 | 345.11 |
| | <i>11.93</i> | <i>10.03</i> | <i>10.10</i> | <i>9.40</i> | <i>9.75</i> |
| Japan | 4.53 | 5.89 | 7.16 | 6.35 | 7.26 |
| Malaysia | 269.42 | 232.26 | 280.42 | 239.17 | 265.22 |
| Singapore | 74.46 | 65.64 | 73.42 | 73.24 | 72.63 |
| USA | 379.55 | 389.20 | 490.05 | 481.14 | 481.04 |
| | <i>12.99</i> | <i>12.85</i> | <i>13.71</i> | <i>14.19</i> | <i>13.58</i> |
| Other Countries | 224.68 | 251.62 | 274.00 | 267.58 | 272.3 |
| | <i>7.69</i> | <i>8.31</i> | <i>7.66</i> | <i>7.89</i> | <i>7.69</i> |
| Total | 2921.07 | 3027.74 | 3574.86 | 3391.02 | 3541.34 |

Source: From July, 2016 Statistics Department, Bangladesh Bank & Upto June, 2016 Foreign Exchange Policy Department, Bangladesh Bank

Note: Numbers in Italic indicate percentage share in total remittance.

Country wise Migration

About two lakh and seventy two thousand Bangladeshi have migrated abroad during October-December 2017 (Table-3 and Graph-4) for employment, which is significantly higher than the previous quarter (26.0 percent) and the same quarter of previous year (28.7 percent). Most (51.1 percent) of Bangladeshis have migrated to KSA during October-December 2017, followed by Malaysia (18.6 percent), Oman (8.5 percent), Qatar (6.5 percent), Kuwait (4.3 percent), Singapore (3.5 percent), Jordan (1.6 percent), Lebanon (0.7 percent), Bahrain (0.6 percent), UAE (0.4 percent), and other countries (4.4 percent). Table-3 shows the yearly data on country-wise migration from 2003 to 2017 and quarterly data from October-December 2016 to October-December 2017.

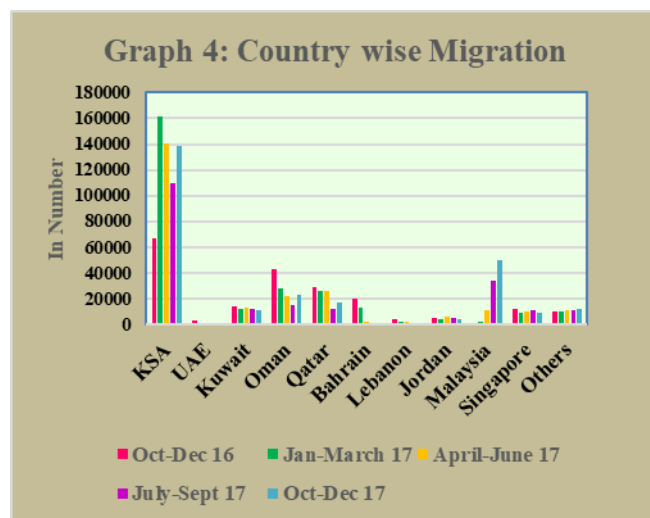


Table-3: Trend of Country wise Migration

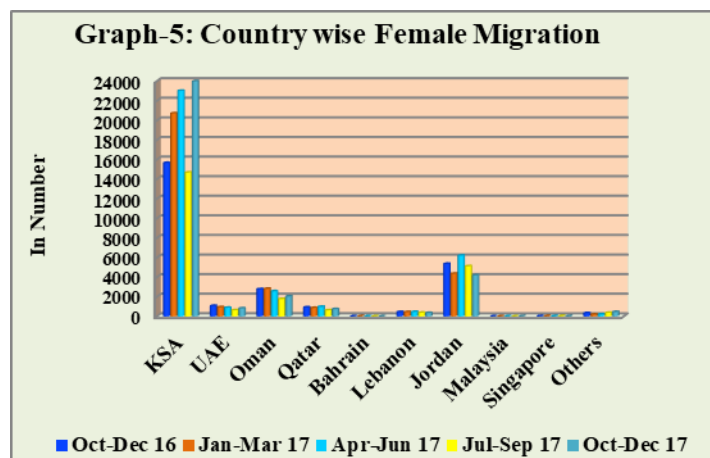
(In Number)

| Year | KSA | UAE | Kuwait | Oman | Qatar | Bahrain | Lebanon | Jordan | Malaysia | Singapore | Others | Total |
|---|---------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| 2003 | 162131 | 37346 | 26722 | 4029 | 94 | 7482 | | | 28 | 5304 | 11054 | 254190 |
| 2004 | 139031 | 47012 | 41108 | 4435 | 1268 | 9194 | | | 224 | 6948 | 23738 | 272958 |
| 2005 | 80425 | 61978 | 47029 | 4827 | 2114 | 10716 | | | 2911 | 9651 | 33051 | 252702 |
| 2006 | 109513 | 130204 | 35775 | 8082 | 7691 | 16355 | 0 | 2822 | 20469 | 20139 | 30466 | 381516 |
| 2007 | 204112 | 226392 | 4212 | 17478 | 15130 | 16433 | 3541 | 494 | 273201 | 38324 | 33292 | 832609 |
| 2008 | 132124 | 419355 | 319 | 52896 | 25548 | 13182 | 8444 | 682 | 131762 | 56581 | 34162 | 875055 |
| 2009 | 14666 | 258348 | 10 | 41704 | 11672 | 28426 | 13941 | 1691 | 12402 | 39581 | 52837 | 475278 |
| 2010 | 7069 | 203308 | 48 | 42641 | 12085 | 21824 | 17208 | 2235 | 919 | 39053 | 44312 | 390702 |
| 2011 | 15030 | 282734 | 29 | 135260 | 13168 | 13928 | 19166 | 4387 | 742 | 48666 | 34952 | 568062 |
| 2012 | 21232 | 215452 | 2 | 170326 | 28801 | 21777 | 14864 | 11726 | 804 | 58657 | 61836 | 605477 |
| 2013 | 12654 | 14241 | 6 | 134028 | 57584 | 25155 | 15098 | 21383 | 3853 | 60057 | 65194 | 409253 |
| 2014 | 10657 | 24232 | 3094 | 105748 | 87575 | 23378 | 16640 | 20338 | 5134 | 54750 | 74001 | 425547 |
| 2015 | 58270 | 25271 | 17472 | 129859 | 123965 | 20720 | 19113 | 22093 | 30483 | 55523 | 53132 | 555901 |
| Oct.-Dec. '16 | 66811 | 2961 | 14756 | 43029 | 29647 | 20171 | 3922 | 5534 | 1770 | 12639 | 10216 | 211456 |
| 2016 | 143913 | 8131 | 39188 | 188247 | 120382 | 72167 | 15095 | 23017 | 40126 | 54730 | 52735 | 757731 |
| Jan.-Mar. '17 | 161356 | 1123 | 12730 | 28349 | 25935 | 13789 | 2813 | 4415 | 2830 | 9761 | 9872 | 272973 |
| Apr.-Jun. '17 | 140917 | 1271 | 12907 | 22288 | 25914 | 2681 | 2048 | 6287 | 11794 | 10023 | 11387 | 247517 |
| Jul.-Sep. '17 | 110124 | 774 | 12224 | 15436 | 12547 | 1277 | 1608 | 5262 | 34683 | 11152 | 10884 | 215971 |
| Oct.-Dec. '17 | 138911 | 967 | 11743 | 23001 | 17616 | 1571 | 1858 | 4485 | 50480 | 9465 | 11967 | 272064 |
| 2017 | 551308 | 4135 | 49604 | 89074 | 82012 | 19318 | 8327 | 20449 | 99787 | 40401 | 44110 | 1008525 |
| % Growth (Oct.-Dec. '17 over Jul.-Sep. '17) | 26.1 | 24.9 | -3.9 | 49.0 | 40.4 | 23.0 | 15.5 | -14.8 | 45.5 | -15.1 | 10.0 | 26.0 |
| % Growth (Oct.-Dec. '17 over Oct.-Dec. '16) | 107.9 | -67.3 | -20.4 | -46.5 | -40.6 | -92.2 | -52.6 | -19.0 | 2752.0 | -25.1 | 17.1 | 28.7 |

Source: Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training, Bangladesh

Country wise Female Migration

In terms of gender wise migration, in October-December 2017 quarter the number of female immigrants had significantly increased. During that period, about 33.6 thousand Bangladeshi female workers had migrated abroad for employment (Table-4), which is 42.2 percent and 26.1 percent higher than the previous quarter and the same quarter of



2016 respectively. Among the total female migrants, 74.3 percent migrated to KSA, followed by Jordan (12.5 percent), Oman (6.1 percent), UAE (2.4 percent), Qatar (2.2 percent), Lebanon (1.1 percent) and Singapore (0.1 percent). The remaining 1.4 percent migrated to other countries. Analyzing the data of overseas female employment, it is found that 6.96 lakh female workers migrated for overseas employment from 1991 to 2017. Whereas the total number of overseas workers stood at 106.37 lakh during the same period. So, the percentage share of female workers among total overseas workers is very insignificant (6.54 percent) due to various social and cultural barriers. However, there is global demand for some of the occupations which are dominated by women (nurse, maid servant, etc.) and the demand has increased in the recent years. So, Government may take necessary initiatives to fulfill the demand for overseas female workers through Ministry of Expatriates Welfare and Overseas Employment (MoEW&OE) and Bangladeshi Diplomatic Missions in abroad. Private recruiting agencies may now play an important role in this context. Table-4 shows the yearly trend of country wise female migration from 2012 to 2017 and Graph-5 shows the quarterly trend of country wise female migration from October-December 2016 to October-December 2017.

Table-4: Trend of Country-wise Female Migration

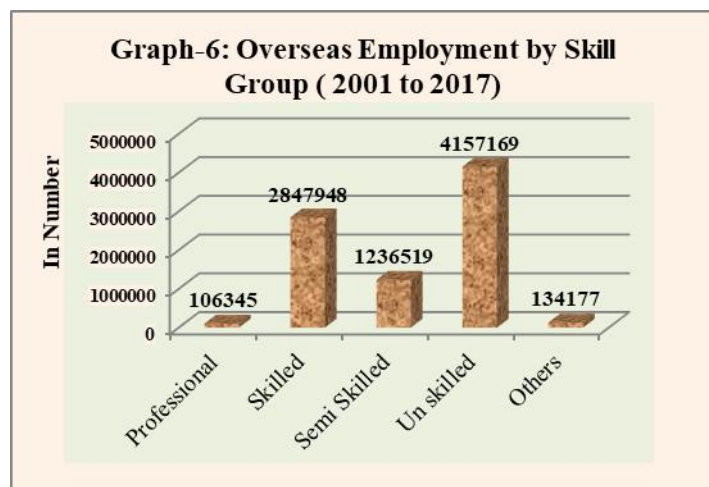
(In Number)

| Year | KSA | UAE | Oman | Qatar | Bahrain | Lebanon | Jordan | Malaysia | Singapore | Others | Total |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|-----------|------------|-------------|---------------|
| 2012 | 485 | 6212 | 4102 | 6 | 38 | 12496 | 11582 | 19 | 75 | 2289 | 37304 |
| 2013 | 167 | 13710 | 6068 | 2100 | 141 | 10750 | 21243 | 23 | 133 | 2065 | 56400 |
| 2014 | 13 | 23214 | 11584 | 6452 | 121 | 11990 | 20134 | 15 | 128 | 2356 | 76007 |
| 2015 | 20952 | 24307 | 16980 | 8642 | 403 | 8782 | 21776 | 12 | 114 | 1750 | 103718 |
| Oct-Dec 16 | 15660 | 1075 | 2777 | 921 | 8 | 447 | 5364 | 0 | 20 | 323 | 26604 |
| 2016 | 68286 | 5151 | 12897 | 5381 | 79 | 2450 | 22689 | 8 | 104 | 1043 | 118088 |
| Jan-Mar 17 | 20723 | 942 | 2821 | 867 | 12 | 448 | 4359 | 7 | 32 | 194 | 30405 |
| Apr-Jun 17 | 23021 | 883 | 2566 | 977 | 7 | 466 | 6209 | 6 | 21 | 208 | 34364 |
| Jul-Sep 17 | 14681 | 627 | 1770 | 622 | 0 | 377 | 5118 | 3 | 33 | 365 | 23596 |
| Oct-Dec 17 | 24929 | 820 | 2042 | 743 | 2 | 351 | 4186 | 12 | 16 | 459 | 33560 |
| 2017 | 83354 | 3272 | 9199 | 3209 | 21 | 1642 | 19872 | 28 | 102 | 1226 | 121925 |
| % Growth (Oct-Dec 17 over Jul-Sep 17) | 69.8 | 30.8 | 15.4 | 19.5 | - | -6.9 | -18.2 | 300.0 | -51.5 | 25.8 | 42.2 |
| % Growth Oct-Dec 17 over Oct-Dec 16) | 59.2 | -23.7 | -26.5 | -19.3 | -75.0 | -21.5 | -22.0 | - | -20.0 | 42.1 | 26.1 |

Source: Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training, Bangladesh

Overseas Employment by Skill Group

A large number of Bangladeshi expatriates are semi/un-skilled and their number stood at 41.57 lakh during 2001 to 2017. The number of skilled expatriates stood at 28.48 lakh during the same period. The relative composition of skills is changing over the period. Based on professions, expatriates can be categorized into four groups- professionals, skilled, semi-skilled and less skilled.



Data on skill group-wise overseas employment during 1976 to 2017 shows that the highest number (48.2 percent) of expatriates are un-skilled followed by skilled (33.4 percent), semi-skilled (15.2 percent) and professional (2.0 percent) (Annexure-1). In 2017 only 0.45 percent of the migrated work force was professional, followed by skilled (43.1 percent), un-skilled (39.8 percent) and semi-skilled (15.4 percent) (Table-5).

Table-5: Category wise Migration

(In Number)

| Year | Overseas Employment by Skill Group | | | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| | Professional | Skilled | Semi-Skilled | Unskilled | Others | Total |
| 2001 | 5940 | 42742 | 30702 | 109581 | | 188965 |
| | <i>3.14</i> | <i>22.62</i> | <i>16.25</i> | <i>57.99</i> | | <i>100.00</i> |
| 2002 | 14450 | 56265 | 36025 | 118516 | | 225256 |
| | <i>6.41</i> | <i>24.98</i> | <i>15.99</i> | <i>52.61</i> | | <i>100.00</i> |
| 2003 | 15862 | 74530 | 29236 | 134562 | | 254190 |
| | <i>6.24</i> | <i>29.32</i> | <i>11.50</i> | <i>52.94</i> | | <i>100.00</i> |
| 2004 | 12202 | 110177 | 28327 | 113670 | 8582 | 272958 |
| | <i>4.47</i> | <i>40.36</i> | <i>10.38</i> | <i>41.64</i> | <i>3.14</i> | <i>100.00</i> |
| 2005 | 1945 | 113655 | 24546 | 100316 | 12240 | 252702 |
| | <i>0.77</i> | <i>44.98</i> | <i>9.71</i> | <i>39.70</i> | <i>4.84</i> | <i>100.00</i> |
| 2006 | 925 | 115468 | 33965 | 220436 | 10722 | 381516 |
| | <i>0.24</i> | <i>30.27</i> | <i>8.90</i> | <i>57.78</i> | <i>2.81</i> | <i>100.00</i> |
| 2007 | 676 | 165338 | 183673 | 472700 | 10222 | 832609 |
| | <i>0.08</i> | <i>19.86</i> | <i>22.06</i> | <i>56.77</i> | <i>1.23</i> | <i>100.00</i> |
| 2008 | 1864 | 292364 | 132825 | 437088 | 10914 | 875055 |
| | <i>0.21</i> | <i>33.41</i> | <i>15.18</i> | <i>49.95</i> | <i>1.25</i> | <i>100.00</i> |
| 2009 | 1426 | 134265 | 84517 | 246585 | 8485 | 475278 |
| | <i>0.30</i> | <i>28.25</i> | <i>17.78</i> | <i>51.88</i> | <i>1.79</i> | <i>100.00</i> |
| 2010 | 387 | 90621 | 20016 | 272118 | 7560 | 390702 |
| | <i>0.10</i> | <i>23.19</i> | <i>5.12</i> | <i>69.65</i> | <i>1.93</i> | <i>100.00</i> |
| 2011 | 1192 | 229149 | 28729 | 301552 | 7440 | 568062 |
| | <i>0.21</i> | <i>40.34</i> | <i>5.06</i> | <i>53.08</i> | <i>1.31</i> | <i>100.00</i> |
| 2012 | 36084 | 173331 | 104721 | 284153 | 9509 | 607798 |
| | <i>5.94</i> | <i>28.52</i> | <i>17.23</i> | <i>46.75</i> | <i>1.56</i> | <i>100.00</i> |
| 2013 | 689 | 133754 | 62528 | 203058 | 9224 | 409253 |
| | <i>0.17</i> | <i>32.68</i> | <i>15.28</i> | <i>49.62</i> | <i>2.25</i> | <i>100.00</i> |
| 2014 | 1730 | 148766 | 70095 | 193403 | 11690 | 425684 |
| | <i>0.41</i> | <i>34.95</i> | <i>16.47</i> | <i>45.43</i> | <i>2.75</i> | <i>100.00</i> |
| 2015 | 1828 | 214328 | 91099 | 243929 | 4697 | 555881 |
| | <i>0.33</i> | <i>38.56</i> | <i>16.39</i> | <i>43.88</i> | <i>0.84</i> | <i>100.00</i> |
| 2016 | 4638 | 318851 | 119946 | 303706 | 10590 | 757731 |
| | <i>0.61</i> | <i>42.08</i> | <i>15.83</i> | <i>40.08</i> | <i>1.40</i> | <i>100.00</i> |
| 2017 | 4507 | 434344 | 155569 | 401796 | 12302 | 1008518 |
| | <i>0.45</i> | <i>43.07</i> | <i>15.43</i> | <i>39.84</i> | <i>1.22</i> | <i>100.00</i> |
| Total (2001 to 2017) | 101838 | 2413604 | 1080950 | 3755373 | 121875 | 7473640 |
| | <i>1.25</i> | <i>33.58</i> | <i>14.58</i> | <i>49.01</i> | <i>1.58</i> | <i>100.00</i> |

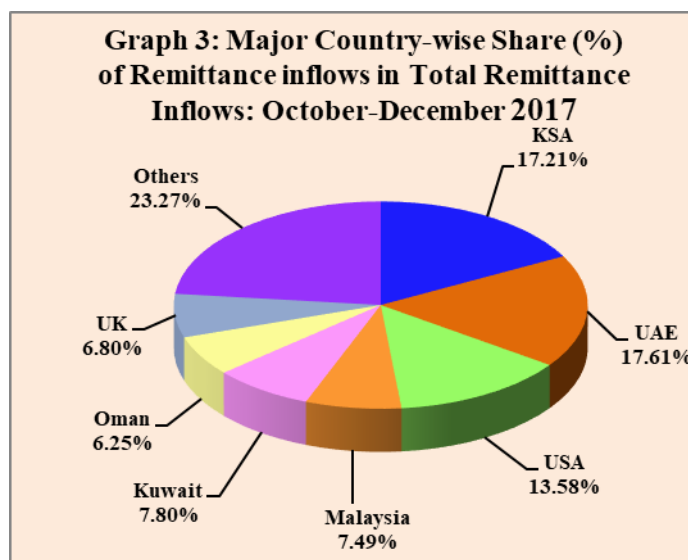
Source: Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training, Bangladesh.

Note: Italic numbers indicate percentage share of employment by skill group in total employment.

Bank wise Remittance Inflow: October-December 2017

As the most important functionary of the financial system, banks drive the legal channels for remittance mobilization. A large number of Bangladeshi expatriates are working abroad and sending home their hard earned foreign currencies through banking channel.

Most of the commercial banks in Bangladesh have been providing services to a large number of migrants working abroad through collecting their earnings all over



the world and distributing the money to their beneficiaries at a shortest possible time. Among the different group of commercial banks, Private Commercial Banks (PCBs) collect the highest amount of remittance, followed by State owned Commercial Banks (SOCBs), Foreign Commercial Banks (FCBs) and Specialized Banks (SB). During October- December 2017, SOCBs have collected USD 847.13 million (23.92 percent of total), which is 4.8 percent and 5.0 percent lower than previous quarter and the same quarter of the previous year respectively. Among all SOCBs, Agrani Bank Ltd. is in the top position with USD 324.59 million and Sonali Bank Ltd. has attained the second position with USD 259.23 million. During the period under report, PCBs have collected USD 2622.43 million (74.05 percent of total), which is 7.7 percent and 33.5 percent higher than the previous quarter and the same quarter of preceding year respectively. Among the PCBs, Islami Bank Bangladesh Ltd. (IBBL) has collected highest amount of remittance. IBBL has collected USD 679.54 million, which is 19.2 percent of total remittance inflow of the country. During October-December 2017, FCBs have collected USD 40.25 million (1.14 percent of total), which is 9.9 percent and 18.2 percent higher than the previous quarter and the same quarter of 2016 respectively. Among FCBs, Standard Chartered bank has collected the highest amount of remittance (USD 14.89 million). During October-December 2017, Bangladesh Krishi Bank has received only USD 31.52 million as remittance. It has been observed that along with the banks mentioned above some other banks (Janata Bank Ltd., Dutch-Bangla Bank Ltd., South East bank Ltd., Mutual Trust Bank Ltd., Pubali Bank Ltd., The City Bank Ltd., NCCBL,

Uttara Bank Ltd, National Bank Ltd., Bank Asia Ltd., and Woori Bank etc.) have also played significant role in collecting remittance during October-December 2017. The trend of bank-wise remittance inflows (on quarterly basis) is shown in Table-6.

Table-6:Bank-wise Remittance Inflow (Quarterly Basis)

(Million USD)

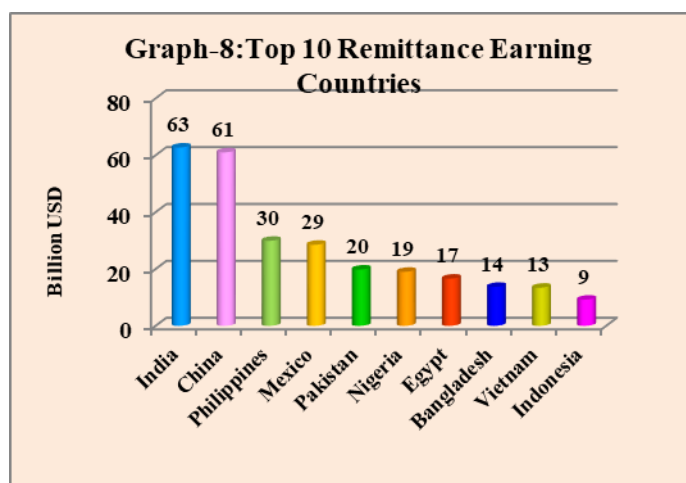
| Bank Name | Oct-Dec 16 | Jan-Mar 17 | April-June 17 | July-Sep 17 | Oct-Dec 17 |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Nationalized Commercial Banks | 891.47 | 809.60 | 928.64 | 890.22 | 847.13 |
| | (30.52) | (26.74) | (25.98) | (26.25) | (23.92) |
| Sonali Bank | 281.98 | 245.88 | 286.35 | 260.91 | 259.23 |
| Agrani Bank | 325.56 | 311.66 | 357.28 | 325.07 | 324.59 |
| Janata Bank | 240.79 | 211.89 | 236.30 | 214.99 | 224.77 |
| Rupali Bank Ltd | 42.87 | 39.81 | 48.31 | 88.88 | 38.27 |
| Basic Bank Ltd | 0.27 | 0.36 | 0.40 | 0.37 | 0.27 |
| Specialized Banks | 30.49 | 30.05 | 34.71 | 30.10 | 31.52 |
| | (1.04) | (0.99) | (0.97) | (0.89) | (0.89) |
| Bangladesh Krishi Bank | 30.49 | 30.05 | 34.71 | 30.10 | 31.52 |
| Private Commercial Banks | 1965.05 | 2152.68 | 2577.20 | 2434.07 | 2622.43 |
| | (67.27) | (71.10) | (72.09) | (71.78) | (74.05) |
| IBBL | 659.94 | 588.59 | 700.33 | 677.29 | 679.54 |
| | (22.59) | (19.44) | (19.59) | (19.97) | (19.19) |
| National Bank Ltd | 118.89 | 111.97 | 130.27 | 120.73 | 109.49 |
| Uttara Bank Ltd | 98.93 | 120.42 | 123.91 | 123.58 | 109.55 |
| BRAC Bank Ltd | 59.27 | 68.52 | 77.64 | 84.58 | 104.80 |
| Pubali Bank Ltd | 100.84 | 101.84 | 112.18 | 124.55 | 123.84 |
| Prime Bank Ltd | 62.41 | 60.59 | 61.86 | 58.84 | 89.72 |
| AB Bank Ltd | 64.73 | 63.67 | 56.27 | 87.13 | 49.80 |
| NCCBL | 49.94 | 56.03 | 85.33 | 91.09 | 110.52 |
| Eastern Bank Ltd | 18.97 | 26.90 | 30.41 | 23.02 | 67.12 |
| Bank Asia Ltd. | 80.72 | 95.94 | 129.11 | 114.76 | 100.75 |
| South East Bank Ltd. | 51.53 | 108.14 | 147.42 | 138.69 | 136.86 |
| The City Bank Ltd | 61.31 | 66.01 | 77.92 | 96.14 | 139.66 |
| Dhaka Bank Ltd | 6.86 | 13.26 | 11.53 | 5.07 | 6.41 |
| Mutual Trust Bank Ltd. | 44.68 | 58.11 | 61.19 | 63.74 | 129.13 |
| The Trust Bank Ltd | 72.04 | 99.47 | 86.02 | 58.56 | 85.27 |
| Dutch-Bangla Bank Ltd | 124.65 | 149.48 | 225.82 | 169.09 | 166.31 |
| Shahjalal Islami Bank | 6.48 | 8.40 | 12.02 | 7.68 | 13.34 |
| IFIC Bank Ltd | 8.14 | 10.37 | 10.37 | 8.26 | 10.67 |
| UCBL | 16.57 | 19.93 | 16.71 | 17.42 | 17.41 |
| Mercantile Bank Ltd. | 56.84 | 65.02 | 78.36 | 78.82 | 88.47 |
| Jamuna Bank Ltd | 42.79 | 53.42 | 57.31 | 51.55 | 49.55 |
| The Premier Bank Ltd | 15.85 | 14.45 | 23.11 | 17.28 | 11.55 |
| Exim Bank Ltd | 7.54 | 10.49 | 14.05 | 12.22 | 10.98 |
| Social Islami Bank Ltd. | 45.78 | 54.90 | 75.73 | 73.63 | 62.57 |
| ICB Islamic Bank | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.04 | 0.00 |
| First Security Bank Ltd. | 17.12 | 27.11 | 38.17 | 32.56 | 28.40 |
| One Bank Ltd | 1.92 | 1.90 | 2.38 | 2.24 | 1.75 |
| Al-Arafah Islami Bank Ltd. | 35.88 | 53.86 | 65.20 | 46.27 | 71.43 |
| Standard Bank Ltd | 15.79 | 21.10 | 26.96 | 21.99 | 24.54 |
| BD Com. Bank Ltd. | 2.79 | 2.68 | 3.14 | 3.12 | 2.53 |
| NRB Commercial Bank | 0.40 | 0.43 | 1.35 | 0.87 | 0.93 |
| Other Banks | 15.44 | 19.66 | 35.12 | 23.26 | 19.54 |
| Foreign commercial Banks | 34.06 | 35.33 | 34.31 | 36.63 | 40.25 |
| | (1.17) | (1.17) | (0.96) | (1.08) | (1.14) |
| HSBC | 8.76 | 8.93 | 8.55 | 7.57 | 7.26 |
| Standard Chartered Bank | 14.17 | 15.53 | 12.41 | 15.73 | 14.89 |
| Woori Bank Ltd | 8.69 | 8.58 | 10.56 | 10.85 | 12.12 |
| Com. Bank of Ceylon | 2.24 | 1.95 | 2.58 | 2.26 | 5.67 |
| Citi Bank NA | 0.02 | 0.04 | 0.02 | 0.04 | 0.20 |
| Bank Al Falah | 0.06 | 0.11 | 0.15 | 0.12 | 0.08 |
| State Bank of India | 0.09 | 0.15 | 0.03 | 0.06 | 0.03 |
| Habib Bank Ltd | 0.02 | 0.04 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| National Bank of Pakistan | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total | 2921.07 | 3027.74 | 3574.86 | 3391.02 | 3541.34 |

Source: Statistics Department, Bangladesh Bank.

Note: Numbers in bracket indicate percentage share of total remittance.

Global Comparison

The World Bank report titled “Migration and Development Brief April, 2017”, finds that, Bangladesh still retained the 8th position in 2016 among the world’s top ten remittance earner countries and 3rd in South Asian region. India is the world’s top most remittance earners country followed by China, Philippines, Mexico, Pakistan, Nigeria and Egypt. Bangladesh’s



remittance earning is 6.8 percent of the country’s GDP. Table-7 shows the top 10 Remittance Earning Countries based on the amount of remittance and as percentage share of GDP in 2016.

Table-7: Top 10 Remittance Earning Countries in 2016

| Top 10 remittance earning countries | | Top 10 countries (As Percentage Share of GDP)** | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Country | Amount of remittance (Billion USD) | Country | Percentage Share of GDP |
| India | 63 | Kyrgyz Republic | 34.5 |
| China | 61 | Nepal | 29.7 |
| Philippines | 30 | Liberia | 29.6 |
| Mexico | 29 | Haiti | 27.8 |
| Pakistan | 20 | Tonga | 27.8 |
| Nigeria | 19 | Tajikistan | 26.9 |
| Egypt | 17 | Moldova | 21.7 |
| Bangladesh | 14 | Comoros | 21.2 |
| Vietnam | 13 | Gambia | 20.4 |
| Indonesia | 9 | Honduras | 18.4 |

Source: Migration and Development Brief, World Bank, April, 2017.

**Top 10 Countries according to percentage share of GDP (%) in 2015.

Recent Policy Measures towards Migrant Workers

Bangladesh government and Bangladesh Bank had taken various regulatory and institutional measures, which has contributed to boost up remittance through formal channels. The Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment (MoEW&OE) has started various projects under the **ADP of FY 2016-17**.

Policy Measures by the government

In order to protect the rights of all migrant workers and their families, the cabinet approved a more detailed and comprehensive "Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Policy 2016" on 11 January 2016 in line with the Overseas Employment and Migration Act 2013 and the United Nations' international convention. The new policy replaced the 'Overseas Employment Policy 2006'. The main objective of the policy is to ensure safety and security of the immigrants, who are contributing significantly to the country's economic development, and their families. This policy includes a provision for setting up a 'National Migration Forum' to supervise the policy implementation. The policy also proposed on formation of a national steering committee comprising ministers and secretaries of the concerned ministries to deal with issues relating to overseas employments. The policy recommends for providing proper training to migrant workers and taking up labor migration diplomacy across the globe. The policy also recommends to fix the possible reasonable costs for migration in a transparent way by the Bangladesh Overseas Employment and Services Limited. An important objective of this policy is to simplify the migration process for the female workers who are seeking overseas jobs. The policy also recommends to increase the number of female officials in Bangladesh missions abroad, particularly in those countries where an increased number of Bangladeshi women are working. Apart from G to G facilities with low cost migration, government has also given strong emphasis on private sector labor migration process recently.

Projects under the ADP

For skill development, the following projects are in progress-

- Renovation and Modernization of Bangladesh Institute of Marine Technology (January 2014 to June 2018);
- Establishment of Bangladesh-IDB Friendship Technical Teachers Training Institute (July 2015 to June 2019);
- Establishment of Technical Training Center (TTC) at Upazilla level (July 2015 to June 2019);
- Enhancement of the Vocational Training Program of TTC in Rajshahi and Faridpur under KOICA's Deep Program (July 2015 to December 2018);
- Capacity Development Program of TTC, Rajshahi (January 2016 to December 2019).

Measures taken by the Bangladesh Bank

For boosting up remittance inflows in the banking channel Bangladesh Bank has taken a good number of measures in recent years

- For the purpose of quick delivery of remittances to beneficiaries through bank-to-bank clearing systems, Bangladesh Electronic Funds Transfer Network (BEFTN) was established on 28 February 2011 with other funds transfer activities;
- To speed up remittance inflows and distribution, the approval mechanism of drawing arrangements among Bangladeshi banks and foreign exchange houses abroad has been simplified. Presently, 1142 drawing arrangements are active and they are playing important role for sending remittances to Bangladesh.
- To increase the competition among the money transmitters, commercial banks are instructed to make the contracts with Multinational Money Remitters/ Exchange Houses to avoid Pay Cash Exclusivity Clause which can create monopoly in the market.
- Establishment of exchange houses/branch offices abroad by local banks has been approved. 34 exchange houses/branch offices/representative offices of different

local banks are operating their programs in different countries (UK, USA, Australia, Singapore, Malaysia, Greece, Italy, Canada, Oman and Maldives).

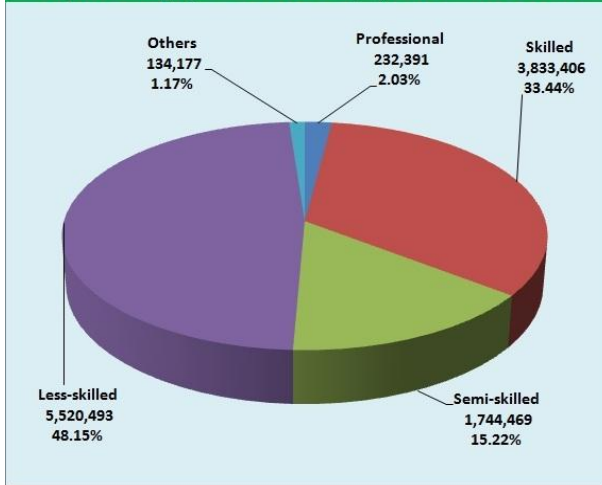
- Besides, bank branches, 26 micro-finance institutions, branches of Bangladesh Post Office and Singer Outlets are permitted to operate distribution of remittances. To promote remittance inflows and distribution network these institutions through their branches in remote area in the country are playing important role on quick delivery of remittance. 18 banks among 24 approved banks have already started their services to give out remittances through the outlets of mobile phone operators.
- To mobilize the remittance flows under the drawing arrangement, the maximum time allowed to distribute remittance to beneficiary level has been re-fixed to 2 working days instead of 72 hours.
- To encourage the workers to remit their earnings through the banking channel, CIP facilities and special citizen facilities for Bangladeshi expatriates have been extended.
- Customer Right Preservation Centre has been established by the Bangladesh Bank to receive the complaints regarding remittance from the Bangladeshi expatriates or their domestic beneficiaries directly.
- Three NRB commercial banks have started their operations in Bangladesh to facilitate investment by Non Resident Bangladeshi.
- Non-Resident Bangladeshis (NRBs) are allowed to open Non-Resident Foreign Currency Deposit (NFCD) accounts with authorized dealer banks at home to credit their retirement benefits, periodical pensions, superannuation benefits, etc. as per employment agreement with employers while on service abroad. The balances held in the accounts can be used for settlement of legitimate payment abroad.
- To ease the remittances for import payment against expired Letter of Credit Authorization Form (LCAF) which is restricted without obtaining its revalidation, ADs are allowed to effect remittances within 30 months of issuance LCAF against import of capital machinery without obtaining its revalidation. Revalidation of LCAF has not be required for remittances against import out of fund held in foreign currency accounts of importers which are maintained under general or special authorization from Bangladesh Bank.

- ADs are allowed to remit the registration fee to the Bank Account of the beneficiaries for medical check-up of migrant workers, the fee in case of invoices specifying details of the check-up by persons and deduction of applicable taxes.
- For issuing shares in favor of the non-residents by debit to the non-resident Taka accounts, ADs maintained non-resident Taka accounts in the names of their overseas branches and correspondents against inward remittance in convertible foreign currencies. ADs will issue certificate in support of the payment from such account for purchase of shares in Bangladeshi companies.
- Authorized Dealer banks are allowed to issue guarantee, bid bond or performance bond in local currency against taka equivalent on behalf of a non-resident firm/company favoring residents in Bangladesh provided a back to back foreign currency guarantee with suitable coverage for exchange rate fluctuation from counter guarantee issuing banks abroad.
- In order to enhance housing finance facility, NRBs may avail housing finance facility at a maximum debt equity ratio of 75:25 instead of existing debt equity ratio of 50:50.
- To enhance the quality of remittance service for NRBs, Bangladesh Bank has instructed all AD banks to establish Remittance Help Desk in their branch offices.

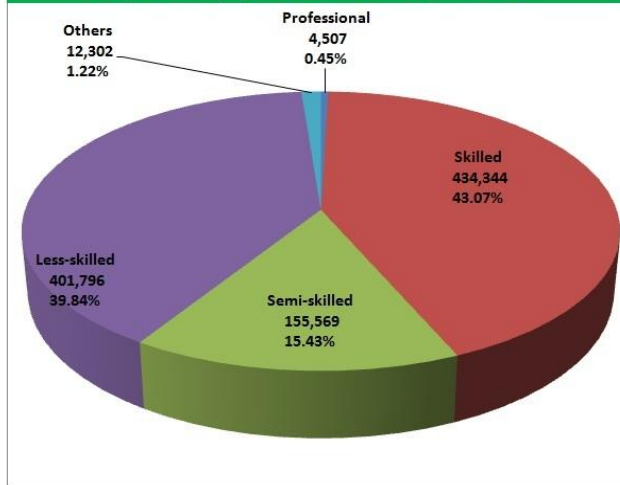
Category-wise Overseas Employment from 1976 to 2017

| Year | Worker's Category | | | | | Total |
|--------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| | Professional | Skilled | Semi-skilled | Less-skilled | Others | |
| 1976 | 568 | 1,775 | 543 | 3,201 | - | 6,087 |
| 1977 | 1,766 | 6,447 | 490 | 7,022 | - | 15,725 |
| 1978 | 3,455 | 8,190 | 1,050 | 10,114 | - | 22,809 |
| 1979 | 3,494 | 7,005 | 1,685 | 12,311 | - | 24,495 |
| 1980 | 1,983 | 12,209 | 2,343 | 13,538 | - | 30,073 |
| 1981 | 3,892 | 22,432 | 2,449 | 27,014 | - | 55,787 |
| 1982 | 3,898 | 20,611 | 3,272 | 34,981 | - | 62,762 |
| 1983 | 1,822 | 18,939 | 5,098 | 33,361 | - | 59,220 |
| 1984 | 2,642 | 17,183 | 5,484 | 31,405 | - | 56,714 |
| 1985 | 2,568 | 28,225 | 7,823 | 39,078 | - | 77,694 |
| 1986 | 2,210 | 26,294 | 9,265 | 30,889 | - | 68,658 |
| 1987 | 2,223 | 23,839 | 9,619 | 38,336 | - | 74,017 |
| 1988 | 2,670 | 25,286 | 10,809 | 29,356 | - | 68,121 |
| 1989 | 5,325 | 38,820 | 17,659 | 39,920 | - | 101,724 |
| 1990 | 6,004 | 35,613 | 20,792 | 41,405 | - | 103,814 |
| 1991 | 9,024 | 46,912 | 32,605 | 58,615 | - | 147,156 |
| 1992 | 11,375 | 50,689 | 30,977 | 95,083 | - | 188,124 |
| 1993 | 11,112 | 71,662 | 66,168 | 95,566 | - | 244,508 |
| 1994 | 8,390 | 61,040 | 46,519 | 70,377 | - | 186,326 |
| 1995 | 6,352 | 59,907 | 32,055 | 89,229 | - | 187,543 |
| 1996 | 3,188 | 64,301 | 34,689 | 109,536 | - | 211,714 |
| 1997 | 3,797 | 65,211 | 43,558 | 118,511 | - | 231,077 |
| 1998 | 9,574 | 74,718 | 51,590 | 131,785 | - | 267,667 |
| 1999 | 8,045 | 98,449 | 44,947 | 116,741 | - | 268,182 |
| 2000 | 10,669 | 99,606 | 26,461 | 85,950 | - | 222,686 |
| 2001 | 5,940 | 42,837 | 30,702 | 109,581 | - | 189,060 |
| 2002 | 14,450 | 56,265 | 36,025 | 118,516 | - | 225,256 |
| 2003 | 15,862 | 74,530 | 29,236 | 134,562 | - | 254,190 |
| 2004 | 12,202 | 110,177 | 28,327 | 113,670 | 8582 | 272,958 |
| 2005 | 1,945 | 113,655 | 24,546 | 100,316 | 12240 | 252,702 |
| 2006 | 925 | 115,468 | 33,965 | 220,436 | 10722 | 381,516 |
| 2007 | 676 | 165,338 | 183,673 | 472,700 | 10222 | 832,609 |
| 2008 | 1,864 | 292,364 | 132,825 | 437,088 | 10914 | 875,055 |
| 2009 | 1,426 | 134,265 | 84,517 | 246,585 | 8485 | 475,278 |
| 2010 | 387 | 90,621 | 20,016 | 272,118 | 7560 | 390,702 |
| 2011 | 1,192 | 229,149 | 28,729 | 301,552 | 7440 | 568,062 |
| 2012 | 36,084 | 173,331 | 104,721 | 284,153 | 9509 | 607,798 |
| 2013 | 689 | 133,754 | 62,528 | 203,058 | 9224 | 409,253 |
| 2014 | 1,730 | 148,766 | 70,095 | 193,403 | 11690 | 425,684 |
| 2015 | 1,828 | 214,328 | 91,099 | 243,929 | 4697 | 555,881 |
| 2016 | 4,638 | 318,851 | 119,946 | 303,706 | 10590 | 757,731 |
| 2017 | 4,507 | 434,344 | 155,569 | 401,796 | 12,302 | 1,008,518 |
| Total | 232,391 | 3,833,406 | 1,744,469 | 5,520,493 | 134,177 | 11,464,936 |
| % | 2.03 | 33.44 | 15.22 | 48.15 | 1.17 | 100.0 |

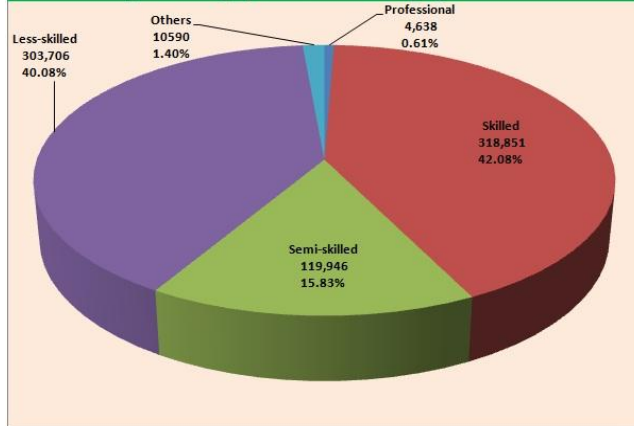
Graph A : Category-wise Overseas Employment from 1976 to 2017



Graph B: Category-wise Overseas Employment in 2017



Graph B: Category-wise Overseas Employment in 2016



Graph B : Category-wise Overseas Employment in 2015

