

## **India holds the top position for highest remittances with a unique record, according to said International Organisation for Migration.**

The International Organization for Migration (I.O.M) has placed India in the top spot, as per its latest World Migration report (2024). The nation has received a record sum of \$111.22 billion in remittances thereby emerging as the first country to cross the \$100 billion mark. Subsequently, Mexico (\$62 bn) occupies the second spot, followed by China (\$52 bn), the Philippines (\$38.1 bn), France (\$30.04 bn), and Pakistan (\$29.94 bn) in other positions. India had maintained its position since the 2010s, when it received \$53.5 billion in fund transfers 2010 before jumping one and three quarters to \$83.2 billion (in 2020), eventually doubling up to the present total.

The report further stated that migrants from the southern Asian countries of India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh brought in the highest number of remittances. India's highest migrant outflow was to three destinations namely: Saudi Arabia, the U.S.A., and the U.A.E. Similarly, India took the 13th spot as a preferred destination for immigrants, and the Bangladesh-India corridor hosted the largest share of immigrants. China's decline to the third spot since 2021 is primarily attributed to its policies that took effect during COVID-19, restricting the movement of people, followed by a rapidly shrinking working-age populace.

Remittances continue to be a lifesaver for numerous individuals but, the survey also pointed out that migrant workers from these nations face several concerns, such as financial exploitation, excessive debt incurred from moving expenses, xenophobia, and workplace abuses. The Gulf States remains a popular destination for international migrant labourers, despite the 2022 World Cup in football highlighting both the rights breaches and the significance of migrant labour to the subregion. Migrants from India, Egypt, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, and Kenya make up 88%, almost 73%, and 77% of the populations in the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, and Qatar. The majority of them are employed in industries namely retail, construction, hospitality, security, and domestic work.

Overall, close to 2% of India's population is employed overseas, making it one of the largest migrant diasporas in the world.

