

Over 300,000 Sri Lankans leave for overseas jobs in 2024

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Over 300,000 Sri Lankans have gone abroad for employment this year by Dec. 13, according to Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment (SLBFE).

About 300,162 Sri Lankans have left for foreign employment and among them are 177,804 males and 122,358 females, the SLBFE said..

Kuwait is the leading destination for Sri Lankan workers, with 73,995 individuals seeking employment there, followed by the United Arab Emirates, which received 49,499 workers, the SLBFE has said, adding that 7,002 Sri Lankans have gone to South Korea, 9,211 to Israel, 10,274 to Romania, and 8,251 to Japan for employment in 2024.

The SLBFE estimates that by the end of 2024, the number of Sri Lankans going abroad for employment will exceed 311,000.

In 2022, 310,948 individuals left Sri Lanka for overseas employment. Workers remittances are one of Sri Lanka's top foreign revenue earners and by the end of Nov. 2024, they had remitted about 6 billion U.S. dollars, according to official data.

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