

# Women migrating on false papers get duped by agents

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However, migrants' rights activists and social workers say that Indian women migrate to the UAE with false papers and are duped by agents operating in India and abroad.

"Many women duped by Indian and foreign agents, migrate to UAE with false papers, even though the government has put in place all kinds of measures to prevent trafficking.

"Women go to UAE on visit visas and then they are moved to Oman by agents on job visas," Rafeek Ravuther, a migrants' rights activist who also hosts a TV programme in India for the last 15 years to find missing migrants, said.

"People know that it is quite hard to migrate to Oman as housemaids. So, they take these kind of dubious ways," Rafeek said, adding that the lapses in Indian airports is leading to this situation.

"Without proper papers and without following the system, how can officers allow women to migrate?" Rafeek added. Rafeek has filed three cases with the Indian government's grievances cell on behalf of relatives of three trafficked women in Oman.

He has also dealt with 47 trafficked Indian women cases in Saudi Arabia.

Another migrants' rights activist from the south Indian state of Tamil Nadu said that they have come across two cases of Indian women being trafficked to Oman from UAE this year.

"In co-ordination with the Indian embassy and other officials, the women were brought back to India," Josephine Amala Valarmathi, from National Domestic Workers' Movement, said.

In 2015 December, Sushma Swaraj, Indian External Affairs minister, said in parliament that more than 7,000 complaints of exploitation came from men and women working in the Gulf Cooperation Council in 2015.

Meanwhile, the social worker in Sohar who rescued Monica, said that during the last four months he has come across 12 trafficked cases.

"All 12 women were forcefully brought to Oman from UAE and were rescued and handed over to the Indian embassy," the social worker, who wanted to remain anonymous, said.

In May, the Indian embassy made a request to the immigration department in Oman to ask recruiters to obtain a no-objection certificate from the Indian embassy while hiring an Indian housemaid.

That system is now in place.

The Indian embassy made a request to the immigration department in Oman to ask recruiters to obtain a NOC from the embassy while hiring