

## India, Bahrain to ink labour pact in June

India and Bahrain will sign a labour agreement in June to facilitate labour mobility and manpower development, a ministry of overseas Indian affairs (MOIA) official said Saturday.

The decision was taken after talks between Minister for Overseas Indian Affairs Vayalar Ravi and visiting Bahrain Labour Minister Majid Al-Alawi at Kumarakom, a popular tourist destination in Kottayam district.

'A draft of the memorandum of understanding (MoU) has been initialled and the agreed minutes to this effect have also been cleared at the highest level. The MoU delves into labour mobility and manpower development,' said the official.

Further details would be announced later Saturday at Kochi where Ravi would address a press conference.

There are about 280,000 Indians working in Bahrain and nearly 80 percent of them are believed to be from Kerala.

India has signed similar labour agreements with the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait to safeguard the interests of Indians working in those countries.

( © IANS / India eNews)