



Ministry of External Affairs

Government of India

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QUESTION NO.2421 INDIAN STUDENTS IN USA AND UK

March 23, 2017

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2421
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.03.2017

INDIAN STUDENTS IN USA AND UK

2421. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of Indian students studying in United States of America (USA) and United Kingdom (UK) has come down recently, in view of anti-immigration policy adopted there;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken up the matter with these countries for relaxing the visa norms in favour of Indian students for training and taking up employment; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI M. J. AKBAR)

(a) to (c) In the United States, a total of 165,918 students from India were studying in 2015-16 academic year, as per the U.S. Institute of International Education (IEE) data. This constituted an increase of 24.9% over the previous year. There has been a consistent increase in the number of Indian students in the U.S. during the last three years. Government of India remains engaged with the United States Government and the Congress in regard to all issues relating to the Indian students including their training and employment.

In the United Kingdom, 18,320 students were enrolled during 2014-15 as compared to 29,900 in 2011-12, according to the data published by the UK Higher Education Statistics Agency. The decline is mostly due to the termination of post-study work visas for non-EEA (European Economic Area) nationals. This

change was introduced in 2012. As per the revised rules, post-study stay in the UK for students depends on the duration of their academic courses. For courses longer than a year, post study stay up to 4 months is available while for courses less than a year, post-study stay allowed is 2 months. These rules are not India-specific but apply to all non-EEA nationals.

The issue of declining Indian students in the UK has been raised consistently by the Government with the UK authorities who have maintained that they welcome Indian students to the UK and that there is no cap on the number of Indian students coming to study in the UK. In July 2016, Government of the UK introduced a pilot scheme that allows post-study stay up to six months for students applying for Masters course in UK's top 4 universities (Imperial College London, Oxford, Cambridge or Bath universities).



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