



# Ministry of External Affairs

Government of India

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## QUESTION NO.3214 INDIANS WITH H1B VISAS WORKING IN USA

March 30, 2017

RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3214  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.03.2017

### INDIANS WITH H1B VISAS WORKING IN USA

3214. SHRI RIPUN BORA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Indians working abroad on job visas for the last three years;
- (b) the details of Indians with H1B visas working in United States of America (USA), sector-wise;
- (c) the total number of NRIs along with greencard holders in USA upto 31st January 2017;
- (d) the action taken by Government on suspension of H1B visa by USA; and
- (e) the plan of Government on the foreign relation with USA, if they do not roll back H1B visa policy?

ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a)(a) The total number of Indian nationals who have been issued employment-based visas by the U.S. during the last three years is as follows:

Non-immigrant Visas	2014	2015	2016
H-1B Visas	108,817	119,952	126,692
[ Specialty occupations in fields			

requiring highly specialized knowledge]

L-1 Visas [Intra-company transferee]	20,197	23,689	23,511
H-2B Visas [Non-agricultural temporary workers]	2	2	2
O1 Visas [Foreign nationals with extraordinary ability in Sciences, Arts, Education, Business or Athletics]	276	324	408
Total	129,292	143,967	150,613

Source: US Department of State

(b) Sector-wise breakup of the data on Indian nationals on work visas is not provided by the U.S. Government.

(c) As per the last data released by the US Department of Homeland Security, in 2012, the total number of NRIs with Legal Permanent Residency status, also known as the 'green card holders' in the US was estimated to be 5,40,000.

(d) & (e) The new Trump Administration has so far not announced any comprehensive policy changes regarding non-immigrant work visa programmes. The Government is keeping a close watch on the developments in the U.S. that may have a bearing upon movement of skilled Indian professionals to the United States. We remain engaged with the U.S. Administration and the U.S. Congress at senior levels on this matter.

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