

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2163
ANSWERED ON- 07/08/2025

EASING VISA RULES FOR INDIAN STUDENTS

2163 # SHRI MADAN RATHORE

SHRI RYAGA KRISHNAIAH

SHRI BRIJ LAL

SHRI AMAR PAL MAURYA

SHRI BABURAM NISHAD

SHRI SUBHASH BARALA

SMT. RAMILABEN BECHARABHAI BARA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether the Ministry is in talks with the American counterpart for easing visa rules for Indian students;
- (b) the manner in which Government can help the poor students who have already secured admission in US universities; and
- (c) the role of the initiative to provide a platform for the students to access opportunities available for useful interventions abroad?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a to c) Visa related policies and processes are the sovereign prerogative of the concerned country. The Government of India remains engaged with the U.S. Government to promote mutually advantageous and secure frameworks that allow for streamlining avenues for legal mobility of students and professionals, and facilitating short-term tourist and business travel.

Issues being faced by Indian students in trying to obtain visa appointments at the U.S. Embassy and Consulates in India have been taken up by the Ministry of External Affairs with U.S. authorities both in New Delhi as well as Washington D.C. As a result, student visa appointments are now open, and the U.S. Embassy is working to open a limited number of additional student visa appointments through the end of August in recognition of the urgent need for these appointments before the start of the new academic year.

Indian Missions/Posts in the U.S. maintain regular contacts with the Indian students enrolled in U.S. universities. Our Embassy and Consulates have dedicated officers who closely track education / student welfare related matters. Indian students travelling abroad for higher studies are also encouraged to register on the MADAD Portal. Their grievances are dealt with by Indian Missions/Posts on priority and are responded to almost on a real time basis through telephone

calls, walk-ins, emails, social media, 24x7 emergency helplines, Open Houses, and the MADAD Portal. Those in distress are provided all possible consular assistance, including emergency medical care and boarding/lodging, whenever required. The Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) has been set up in Indian Missions/Posts abroad for assisting overseas Indian nationals, including Indian students, in distress situations on a means tested basis for deserving cases.

ANNEXURE – I			
Data of Indians residing abroad			
Sl.No.	Country	2021	2022
1.	Afghanistan	3087	3087
2.	Albania	50	50
3.	Algeria	5700	5700
4.	Andorra	50	50
5.	Angola	2500	2500
6.	Anguilla	30	30
7.	Ankara	1278	1278
8.	Antigua & Barbuda	220	220
9.	Argentina	800	800
10.	Armenia	1477	1477
11.	Aruba	0	600
12.	Australia	241000	241000
13.	Austria and Montenegro	13000	13000
14.	Azerbaijan	953	953
15.	Bahamas	250	250
16.	Bahrain	323292	323292
17.	Bangladesh	10385	10385
18.	Barbados	600	600
19.	Belarus	420	854
20.	Belgium	12386	12386
21.	Belize	300	300
22.	Benin	1563	1563
23.	Bhutan	60000	60000
24.	Bolivia	50	50
25.	Bonaire & Smaller Islands	0	54
26.	Bosnia & Herzegovina	20	20
27.	Botswana	5200	9000
28.	Brazil	4729	4729
29.	British Virgin Islands	50	50
30.	Brunei Darussalam	11000	11500
31.	Bulgaria	250	250
32.	Burkina Faso	200	200
33.	Burundi	465	465
34.	Cambodia	1500	1500
35.	Cameroon	800	800
36.	Canada	178410	178410
37.	Cape Verde Islands	20	20
38.	Cayman Islands	1500	1500

39.	Central African Republic	10	100
40.	Chad	120	120
41.	Chile	1530	1530
42.	China	64637	90137
43.	Colombia	112	450
44.	Comoros	30	30
45.	Congo (Dem. Rep. of)	9000	10000
46.	Congo (Rep. Of)	590	590
47.	Cook Island	5	5
48.	Costa Rica	1011	1011
49.	Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)	1500	1500
50.	Croatia	82	82
51.	Cuba	600	600
52.	Curacao	0	700
53.	Cyprus	7254	7254
54.	Czech Republic	4590	4590
55.	Denmark	12685	12685
56.	Djibouti	500	500
57.	Dominica (Commonwealth of)	15	15
58.	Dominica Republic	100	100
59.	East Timor	100	100
60.	Ecuador	43	300
61.	Egypt	3500	3950
62.	El Salvador	14	14
63.	Equatorial Guinea	250	250
64.	Eritrea	300	300
65.	Estonia	741	741
66.	Ethiopia	5250	5500
67.	Fiji	1400	1400
68.	Finland	5652	5652
69.	France	19000	19000
70.	France (Reunion Island)	250	300
71.	France (Guadeloupe, Martinique, St. Martin)	420	420
72.	Gabon	100	1100
73.	Gambia	700	700
74.	Georgia	3192	3192
75.	Germany	1,42,585	1,42,585
76.	Ghana	10000	10000
77.	Greece	12300	12300
78.	Grenada	200	200
79.	Guatemala	50	50
80.	Guinea (Republic of)	700	700
81.	Guinea Bissau	100	100
82.	Guyana	600	600

83.	Haiti	580	580
84.	Honduras	15	15
85.	Hungary	1026	1026
86.	Iceland	257	257
87.	Indonesia	8500	8500
88.	Iran	4000	4000
89.	Iraq	18000	18000
90.	Ireland	15000	15000
91.	Israel	12467	12467
92.	Italy	172301	157695
93.	Jamaica	5000	5000
94.	Japan	37933	37933
95.	Jordan	20569	20569
96.	Kazakhstan	6785	6785
97.	Kenya	20000	20000
98.	Korea (DPR)	15	15
99.	Korea (Republic of)	13236	13236
100.	Kuwait	1028274	1028274
101.	Kyrgyzstan	11200	11200
102.	Laos, PDR	425	450
103.	Latvia	760	760
104.	Lebanon	8500	8500
105.	Lesotho (Kingdom of)	500	1500
106.	Liberia	1500	1500
107.	Liechtenstein (Principality of)	5	5
108.	Lithuania	1000	1000
109.	Luxembourg	2331	2331
110.	Macedonia	7	7
111.	Madagascar	2500	2500
112.	Malaysia	227950	227950
113.	Malawi	2500	2500
114.	Maldives	25000	25000
115.	Mali	436	436
116.	Malta	4850	4850
117.	Marshall Islands (Republic of)	14	14
118.	Mauritania	150	150
119.	Mauritius	10500	10500
120.	Mexico	6000	6000
121.	Micronesia	35	35
122.	Moldova	600	600
123.	Monaco	30	30
124.	Mongolia	150	150
125.	Montserrat	40	40
126.	Morocco	250	250
127.	Mozambique	2300	2300
128.	Myanmar	9207	9207
129.	Namibia	200	200

130.	Nauru	20	20
131.	Nepal	600000	600000
132.	Netherlands	40000	40000
133.	Netherlands Antilles	2581	2581
134.	New Zealand	75000	80000
135.	Nicaragua	39	39
136.	Niger	150	150
137.	Nigeria	40000	40000
138.	Niue	0	9
139.	Norway	7718	7732
140.	Oman	779351	779351
141.	Palau (Republic of)	27	27
142.	Palestine (PLO)	20	20
143.	Panama	4000	4000
144.	Papua New Guinea	2900	2900
145.	Paraguay	200	200
146.	Peru	399	399
147.	Philippines	105000	105000
148.	Poland	10162	10162
149.	Portugal	11393	11393
150.	Qatar	691539	745775
151.	Romania	1741	1741
152.	Russian Federation	28610	31354
153.	Rwanda	2940	2940
154.	Samoa	40	21
155.	Sao Tome and Principe (Rep. of)	50	50
156.	Saudi Arabia (Kingdom of)	2592166	2592166
157.	Senegal	500	500
158.	Serbia	303	303
159.	Seychelles	5200	5200
160.	Sierra Leone	900	900
161.	Singapore	350000	350000
162.	Slovak Republic	500	500
163.	Slovenia	126	126
164.	Solomon Islands	50	50
165.	Somalia	100	100
166.	South Africa	60000	60000
167.	Spain	49084	49084
168.	Sri Lanka	14000	14000
169.	St. Kitts and Nevis	500	500
170.	St. Lucia	550	550
171.	St. Martin	0	2171
172.	St. Vincent & the Grenadines	50	50
173.	Sudan	2600	1500
174.	South Sudan	1100	1100

175.	Suriname	205	205
176.	Swaziland	1000	1000
177.	Sweden	15349	15349
178.	Switzerland	17403	17403
179.	Syria	94	94
180.	Tajikistan	1500	1500
181.	Tanzania	10000	10000
182.	Thailand	20000	20000
183.	Togo	500	500
184.	Tonga	6	6
185.	Trinidad & Tobago	1800	1800
186.	Tunisia	121	121
187.	Turkey	1609	1609
188.	Turkmenistan	240	240
189.	Turks & Caicos Islands	200	200
190.	Uganda	23500	23500
191.	Ukraine	7541	0
192.	UAE	3419875	3419875
193.	UK	351000	351000
194.	USA	1280000	1280000
195.	Uruguay	570	570
196.	Uzbekistan	350	350
197.	Vanuatu	10	10
198.	Venezuela	70	50
199.	Vietnam	5000	5000
200.	Zambia	6000	6000
201.	Zimbabwe	500	500
	Total	13524303	13601239
