

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 2153
ANSWERED ON- 18/12/2025

WAITING TIME FOR US VISA APPLICATIONS

2153. SHRI SANJAY KUMAR JHA

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the US visa application process for Indian travellers shows varying waiting time, from 4.5 months in Hyderabad to 11 months in Mumbai;
- (b) whether a harmonization of the time period would be beneficial for the Indians travelling to the USA; and
- (c) if so, whether the Ministry would take up the matter with the US Department of State?

ANSWER

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

(a to c) The U.S. State Department website provides category-wise and Embassy/Consulate-wise waiting period for U.S. visas. As of 20 November 2025, the predicted waiting period for availing interview appointment at the U.S. Embassy and Consulates in India is as under:

S.N.	U.S. Embassy/ Consulate	VISA type		
		B1/B2	F, M, J	H, L, O, P, Q
1	Delhi	10 months	0.5 months	NA
2	Kolkata	05 months	2.5 months	NA
3	Mumbai	9.5 months	03 months	01 month
4	Hyderabad	05 months	2.5 months	02 months
5	Chennai	03 months	02 months	01 month

Note: ***B1**-Business, **B2**-Tourist, **F**-Student, **M**-Vocational/Non-Academic, **J**-Exchange Visitor, **H**-Speciality Occupations, **L**-Intracompany Transfer, **P**-Athlete/Artists/Entertainers, **O**-Extraordinary Ability, and **Q**-Cultural Exchange.*

The U.S. Administration has recently announced that every visa adjudication is a national security decision. The U.S. will ensure that those applying for admission into the United States do not intend to harm Americans and U.S. national interests, and that all applicants will need to credibly establish their eligibility for the visa sought, including that they intend to engage in activities consistent with the terms for their admission. The U.S. has also clarified that a U.S. visa is a privilege, not a right.

As part of the follow up measures, the U.S. Administration (through notifications dated 18 June and 3 December respectively) has expanded screening and vetting to identify visa applicants who are inadmissible to the United States. This is applicable for student and exchange visitor applicants in

the F, M, and J non-immigrant classifications, as well as H-1B applicants and their dependants (H4 visa applicants), further impacting visa appointment schedules.

Visa issuance and the related policy and procedural frameworks, is the sovereign prerogative of the concerned country.

Government of India remains engaged with the U.S. Government to promote mutually advantageous and secure mobility frameworks that allow for streamlining avenues for legal mobility of students and professionals, as well as facilitating short-term tourist and business travel.
