

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-770

ANSWERED ON- 26/07/2024

H1B VISA ISSUES

770. SHRI GODAM NAGESH

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

(a) whether the issue relating to H-1B visa and curtailing the number of Indians to be allowed in U.S. and the steep increase in process fee was taken up by India during PM's recent visit to US and if so, the outcome thereof;

(b) if not, whether the Government agrees with the restrictive policy of US in this regard and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of pending issues with US and other countries; and

(d) the time by which it will be solved to help the Indian students to pursue their career in US, UK and other countries?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a to d) During Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's visit to the U.S. in June 2023, both leaders affirmed that the movement of professional and skilled workers, students, investors and business travellers between the countries contributes immensely to enhancing bilateral economic and technological partnership. The leaders also directed officials to identify additional mechanisms to facilitate travel for business, tourism, and professional and technical exchanges between the two countries.

Government of India remains closely engaged with the U.S. Government on all issues relating to movement of Indian professionals including those under the H-1B visa programme through the appropriate India-US bilateral dialogue mechanism. According to the data released by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), Indian nationals received the highest number of H-1B visas or 72.3% of all the H-1B visas issued by the U.S. for the fiscal year 2023.

In all our engagements with countries such as the U.S., UK and others, we have continued to highlight the importance of migration and mobility of skilled Indian professionals and the benefits they bring to their respective economies.
