

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1120
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2008
INDIAN DOCTORS IN BRITAIN FACING UNEMPLOYMENT
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Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian doctors in Britain are facing the problem of unemployment;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any steps have been taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) & (b) A large number of Indian doctors in UK have not been able to find employment, after the implementation of new immigration and employment regulations in UK in March 2006, since UK/EU doctors are given preference in recruitment. As per information made available by British Association of Physicians of Indian Origin, 5,000 unemployed Indian doctors have left UK since the introduction of the new rules. However, exact data is not available.

(c) & (d) The above issue was taken up with concerned UK authorities from time to time including during the visit of Minister of Health to UK in February 2005 and in January 2008, with Madam Rosie Winterton, then UK Minister of State for Health in June 2005, during Joint Economic and Trade Committee (JETCO) meetings in 2007 and 2008 and during the visit of the then Chancellor of Exchequer, Gordon Brown to India in January 2007. The Indian High Commission has also been taking up the issue with the concerned British authorities from time to time.

In view of the above, the UK Department of Health has confirmed that approximately 6000 Indian doctors have succeeded in getting jobs in 2007.