

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:498  
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2010  
HARDSHIPS TO INDIAN STUDENTS  
MUTTEMWAR SHRI VILAS BABURAO

**Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) the number of students whose visa requests were rejected consequent upon change in the immigration policy of Australia and the number of students who have been facing hardships in getting refund of their tuition fees;
- (b) whether India's High Commission in Australia is helping Indian students in getting their tuition fees refunded; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) to (c): The Mission/Posts in Australia have not received any complaints, so far, from Indian students regarding denial of Australian visa to him/her due to change in Australia's immigration policy. Therefore, the Mission/Posts in Australia do not have the number of such affected students. However, tuition fees are refundable as per provisions under the Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Act. Wherever educational institutions in Australia have closed down, the international students are offered alternate placement in similarly placed institutions. If such placements are not available or accepted, the students can opt for refund. The High Commission of India in Canberra as well as the Consulates General of India in Sydney and Melbourne have received some representations from students affected by college closures for refund of fees and these cases have been taken up with the concerned authorities in Australia for refund of tuition fees, as admissible.