

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:629  
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2010  
SAFETY AND SECURITY OF INDIAN STUDENTS ABROAD  
Adhi Sankar Shri ;Sugavanam Shri E.G.

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the Indian students are subjected to continuous attack in Australia and other countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of incidents that have been reported during the last three years and the current year and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the India-Australia Education Council is going to be formed as a part of safety and well being of students of both the countries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to protect and safeguard the Indian students studying abroad?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. Number of incidents of attacks involving Indian students in Australia are as under:-

Year Number of Student Attack

2007 2

2008 11

2009 46

2010 35 (1 Jan - 26 July 2010)

(c)&(d): No, Sir. The overall India-Australia Education Council is to bring together government, academia, business and industry of both the countries to enhance bilateral collaboration in the education sector. However, the subject of safety and well being of students of both the countries is being taken up during bilateral meetings at various levels.

(e): Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development, during his visit to Australia from 6th to 10th April 2010 held extensive discussions with various dignitaries from the Federal Government of Australia as well as State Governments of Western Australia, New South Wales and Victoria regarding the safety and well being of Indian students in Australia. Hon'ble Minister urged the Australian authorities to take stringent measures to stop such attacks and also to apprehend the culprits in recent incidents. The Australian Government has undertaken various measures for protection and safety of Indian students including introduction of an International Students' Care Service, deployment of additional forces, amendments in sentencing laws and empowering police forces to combat violence and antisocial behavior. The Premier of New South Wales also assured the Hon'ble Minister of early establishment of helpline for international students, including Indian students, to access in distress.