

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1289

ANSWERED ON:16.11.2010

REVISION OF VISA GUIDELINES

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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has revised the guidelines in respect of employment/ work visa recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the revision of the said guidelines are country specific; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) to (d): The guidelines on Employment Visa have been reviewed by the Government with a view to ensure that Employment visa is granted only for highly skilled and/or qualified personnel. It has been decided that a foreign national being sponsored for an Employment Visa in any sector should draw a salary in excess of US\$ 25,000 per annum. However, this condition of annual floor limit on income will not apply to: (a) Ethnic cooks, (b) Language teachers (other than English language teachers)/translators and (c) Staff working for the concerned Embassy/High Commission in India. A separate visa regime, Labelled as project ('P') visa within the Employment Visa chapter, has been introduced for foreign nationals coming to India for execution of projects in the power and steel sectors. The revised guidelines issued are not country specific and will cover all foreign nationals applying for Employment Visa.