

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2039  
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2010  
PROBLEMS FACED BY IT COMPANIES  
Khair Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao

**Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Information Technology(IT) companies are facing problems / upset over US visa screening;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)

(a) to (c): As per the information made available by the M/o External Affairs, Government of India has conveyed its concerns over the protectionism sentiment in the US and on the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Bill which aims to raise US\$ 600 million for augmenting US Border Security by hiking fee of H1B and L category visas passed recently in the US Congress, which could have an adverse impact on Indian information technology based service industry. The United States Government is committed, including in the context of G-20, to resist protectionism in all its forms. This was reiterated during the recent visit of the US President to India from 6 to 9 November 2010, when Prime Minister and President Obama agreed on steps to reduce trade barriers and protectionist measures. They also agreed to facilitate movement of professionals between the two countries.