

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:265
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2011
H B VISA
Rane Dr. Nilesh Narayan

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the US Government has hiked H1B Visa Fees; and
- (b) if so, the details of the hike for each visa application?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SMT. PRENEET KAUR)

(a) & (b) The United States has enacted Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act in August 2010 to raise \$ 600 million for augmenting US Border Security by, inter alia, hiking the fee applicable to H1B and L category visas until 2014. This would apply to those companies, which have more than 50 employees and 50% of these are on H1B / L visas. In a legislation enacted in December 2010 termed 9/11 Health and Compensation Act, the period of enhanced fee on H1B and L visa categories has been further extended by a year to 2015.

The legislation raises the fee for H1B and L1 visa from USD 500 to USD 2500 for H1B visa and to USD 2750 for L visa.