

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:367

ANSWERED ON:23.02.2011

HARASSMENT OF INDIAN STUDENTS

Meghwal Shri Bharat Ram; Ramasubbu Shri S.; Yadav Shri Ranjan Prasad

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether despite India's friendly relations with the United States of America incidents of humiliation of Indians including students/officials/Ambassadors/ Dignitaries take place in America;
- (b) if so, the details of such incidents reported during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether such matters have been taken up with the Government of USA;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the USA Government thereto; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that Indians are not harassed in the USA in future?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) Government of India has protested the enhanced airport security procedures, inconsistent with diplomatic courtesies and privileges, used for India's Ambassador to the United States and India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations during the months of November and December 2010.

The Government has also conveyed its serious concerns over the impact of the closure of Tri-Valley University in California on the approximately 1500 Indian students enrolled at that University and the radio-tagging of 18 students, who are facing investigations in this case, and has sought removal of radio tagging of students and adequate opportunity for students to transfer to other universities or adjust their status in the United States.

(d) & (e) The US Government has expressed regret for the airport incidents and has conveyed that it will take steps to avoid similar incidents in the future.

With regard to the TVU students, radio collars are being gradually removed from the 18 students. The US Government has also conveyed that it is making efforts to ensure that innocent students have adequate opportunity to seek transfers to other universities or leave the country honourably.