GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:181
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2011
REHABILITATION OF INDIAN STUDENTS
Mani Shri Jose K.;Sayeed Muhammed Hamdulla A. B.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has urged upon the U.S. Government to rehabilitate the victims of alleged fraud and irregularities perpetuated by the Tri-Valley University, California including transfer to other U.S. Universities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the present status thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken to ensure that innocent students are not duped in foreign countries?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFFERED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTIN NO.181 REGARDING "REHABILITATION OF INDIAN STUDENTS" FOR ANSWER ON 09.03.2011

(a) & (b) Government's primary concern is the welfare of the affected Indian students and to ensure that their academic career is not jeopardized due to closure of Tri-Valley University in California, USA for alleged fraudulent practices. The Government has repeatedly conveyed to the US Government that the students, who are themselves victims of the fraud, should be given adequate time and opportunity to transfer to other universities, adjust their status or, if they desire, return to India honourably.

External Affairs Minister personally raised this issue with Secretary of State Clinton. Foreign Secretary also conveyed our expectation of an expeditious resolution of this issue to US officials during her official visit to Washington D.C on 14 February 2011.

- (c) The United Stated Immigration and Customs Enforcement (UNICE) has begun the process of adjusting the status and transfer of eligible students on case to case basis. Approximately 700 students are being considered for reinstatement of their status.
- (d) The Government expects that the United States would take steps to prevent such universities from exploiting foreign students. Government would also advise Indian students to exercise due diligence in applying to foreign universities.