

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2085
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2011
FOREIGN STUDENTS IN INDIAN MADRASAS
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of foreign muslim students who have come to India to study in Indian Madrasas during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) whether Indian missions abroad have denied visa to many such students on citing various reasons;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether these Missions are issuing visas to foreign students desirous to study in other universities and colleges in India;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Government proposes to issue guidelines to its missions to grant visa to those students who wish to study in Indian Madrasas; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) Student visas are granted to all eligible foreigners coming to India for full-time studies in any recognized educational institution. No figures on visas granted or denied, institution-wise or religion-wise, are compiled.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) Yes.
- (e) Figures on student visas issued, institution-wise or college-wise, are not compiled.
- (f) & (g) Guidelines for issue of visas to foreigners interested in theological studies already exist. According to the guidelines, Indian Missions and Posts abroad may grant visas to those students who wish to study in Indian Madrasas with the prior approval of the Ministry of Home Affairs.