

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2406  
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2011  
CATEGORY OF VISA  
Tewari Shri Manish

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) the category and duration of the visa that is granted to people desirous of working in the film and television industry in India including all regional film and television industries;
- (b) the general and specific visa rules, norms and guidelines to be adhered by such individuals during their stay in the country;
- (c) whether the Immigration Authority regularly scrutinize the visa status of several foreigners who enter in the country on a tourist visa and start working in the Indian film and television industry including all regional film and television industries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the action taken by the Government against those foreigners who are found employed in the film and television industry in violation of their visa conditions;
- (f) the number of cases of violation of visa norms reported during the last three years and the current year; and
- (g) the action taken against them, casewise?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) & (b): As per the extant instructions, foreign nationals desirous of working in the film and television industry are required to obtain Employment Visa. The Indian Missions/Posts may grant Employment Visa with a validity up to two years or the term of assignment, whichever is less. This can be extended up to a total period of 5 years from the date of issue of the initial visa within the country. Such foreign national should draw a minimum salary of US\$ 25,000 per annum. If the Employment Visa is valid for a period of more than 180 days, the foreign nationals are required to register with the Foreigners Regional Registration Officer (FRRO)/ Foreigners Registration Officer (FRO) concerned. The foreign national is also required to comply with all legal requirements like payment of tax liabilities etc.

(c) to (e): In the case of those foreign nationals who come on Employment Visa valid for more than 180 days and registered with the FRRO/FRO concerned, their visa status is regularly scrutinized by the FRRO/FRO concerned. If any foreign national is found employed in violation of the Visa conditions, they are either granted exit permit or issued Leave India Notice or deported to their home countries. Those who violate the visa conditions may also be black listed to prevent their entry into the country.

(f) & (g): As per information available, 11 cases of visa violations were reported by the FRROs of which 8 were issued with exit permit. Out of the 8 persons issued with exit permit, 4 persons were blacklisted and other 4 persons were penalized.