

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2194

ANSWERED ON:07.12.2011

ATTACKS ON INDIAN STUDENTS

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**Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Indian students studying in various countries including Australia are being attacked and victimised;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year, country-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has taken up the issue with the concerned countries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government of such countries; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government of India to ensure safety and security of the Indian students studying abroad?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (Dr. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) & (b): The following number of cases of attacks on Indian students and members of the Indian community in Australia have come to the notice of the High Commission of India at Australia during the last three years and the current year:

Year	2008	2009	2010	2011
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No.of cases	11	50	103	15
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However, High Commission has also stated that the Australian authorities do not register cases based on ethnicity of the victims. No other incident of attack on Indian students has been reported from any other country as per the available information.

(c) to (e): The issue of attacks on Indian students in Australia was taken up at the highest level by GOI, including at the Ministerial level as well as through the High Commission and its Consulates in Australia. It has been conveyed to the Australian Government that it was the responsibility of the Australian authorities to ensure the well being and security of all Indians in Australia. Indian High Commission and Consulates in Australia remain in regular touch with the Australian authorities both at the federal and the state level as well as with the Indian community to offer support and assistance and follow-up on all reported cases of attacks. 'Open Fridays' are observed on all Fridays whereby Indian students in Australia can walk into the High Commission and the Consulates without any prior appointment to discuss their problems and issues. Several measures have been put in place on the ground by the Australian Government to improve safety and security, at the Federal and State level. Policing has improved, as has interaction with students. Information cards are provided to students to seek emergency assistance whenever required. In June 2009, the Commonwealth Government of Australia had setup a Task Force headed by the NSA to go into the matter of such attacks and suggest a course of action.