

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3448
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2011
FOREIGN STUDENTS IN INDIA
Jardosh Smt. Darshana Vikram

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

- (a) the number of students from other countries studying in various Indian universities and other educational Institutions at present; and
- (b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to attract foreign students in India?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Information regarding the number of foreign students studying in Indian Universities and other educational institutions is not centrally maintained. The bilateral and multilateral exchange programmes entered into by the Ministry as well as higher educational institutions in India with their foreign counterparts facilitate flow of students from foreign countries to India. University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued guidelines for permitting 15 percent supernumerary seats for foreign students including NRIs/PIOs in Universities and colleges. Many programmes have been launched to attract foreign students to Indian institutions which include Direct Admission of Students Abroad (DASA) by Ministry of Human Resource Development; Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children and Know India Programme by Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs; Fellowships and Visitors Programmes by Indian Council for Cultural Relations; Fellowships by Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Indian Council of Social Science Research and Ministry of Science and Technology. University Grants Commission (UGC) and All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) have undertaken several initiatives to improve quality of education, research and infrastructure including framing fresh regulations for maintenance of standards in higher educational institutions. The draft "Universities for Research & Innovation Bill, 2011" stipulates that 50 percent of the total student enrolment can be from foreign countries.