

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2006
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2012
IT PROFESSIONALS
Gaddigoudar Shri P.C.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of IT professional are migrating to America;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a large number of requests for L-I visa of Indian Companies have been rejected during 2011;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government to address the issue?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The Government is aware that several thousand Indian skilled professionals, including IT professionals, visit United States every year to work for service companies. According to the Press Release issued by the United States Embassy in New Delhi on 25 October, 2011, 67,195 H-1B visas and more than 25,000 L-1 visas were issued in India in US Fiscal 2011. No data is maintained of emigration from India.

(c) & (d) A report compiled by an independent organization, the National Foundation for American Policy in November 2011, stated that the L-1 visas issued by the United States to Indians decline by 28% in U.S. Fiscal Year 2011 compared to U.S. Fiscal Year 2010. The United States issued 25,898 L-1 visas to Indians in 2011 while 35,896 L-1 visas were issued in 2010.

(e) The Government uses every opportunity, including during trade related meetings, to raise with the U.S. Government its concerns regarding visa difficulties faced by Indian professionals.