

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3203
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2012
CLOSURE OF VOCATIONAL COLLEGES IN AUSTRALIA
Dhruvanarayana Shri R.

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

(a) whether the Australia has decided to close down three vocational colleges for non-compliance of training standards that will impact more than 500 Indian students; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government to protect the interests of Indian students?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. Recently Australia has decided to close down the following three vocational colleges for non-compliance with training standards:-

(i) The Ashmark Group Pty Ltd in Melbourne, Victoria

(ii) G Plus G Global Trading Pty Ltd. in Melbourne, Victoria

(iii) Ivy Group in New South Wales

This will impact more than 500 Indian students. The Government has taken up the matter with the Australian Government at the appropriate level as well as through the High Commission of India in Australia. The Australian Government has announced that the Indian Students affected by the closure of these colleges would be able to avail of the Australian Government's Tuition Protection Scheme (TPS), which seeks to place affected students in an alternate course or refund any unspent pre-paid tuition fees to the students.