

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1556
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2013
FOREIGN STUDENTS IN INDIAN UNIVERSITIES
Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that foreign students are flocking to Indian universities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is wooing them with certain incentives;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action plan prepared by the Government to attract other students from the international universities to secure a better place for education in the country ?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): No Madam. Although foreign students from about 152 countries had registered in Indian Universities and Institutions in 2012, their total number is not very large by global standards.

(c) to (e) : The bilateral and multilateral exchange programmes, entered into by the Ministry as well as by the higher educational institutions in India with their foreign counterparts, facilitate the flow of students from foreign countries to India. The 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 also been launched to attract the foreign students to Indian institutions, including the Direct Admission of Students Abroad (DASA) by the Ministry of Human Resource Development; Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children and Know India Programme by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs; Fellowships and Visitors Programmes by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations and Fellowships by the Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, the Indian Council of Social Science Research and the Ministry of Science and Technology.