

1	2	3
17.	Tripura	54.68
18.	Uttar Pradesh	733.17
19.	Uttarakhand	114.63
20.	West Bengal	423.27
GRAND TOTAL		6000.00

Risk on employment in Australia

2197. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the visiting Foreign Minister has accepted that "there is a risk in part-time employment in Australia";
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has raised the matter of safety and security of Indians in Australia;
- (d) if so, the reaction of Government of Australia thereto; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) There have been media reports quoting the Australian Foreign Minister, in his interaction with students at University of Delhi, as saying that "There is a risk in part-time employment and the Indian High Commission in Australia is trying to provide students with the best possible advice".

(c) to (e) The issue of attack on Indian student in Australia has been taken up at the highest level. The Prime Minister of India conveyed the high priority that Government of India attaches to the safety, security and well-being of the Indian community in Australia, to the Prime Minister of Australia, Mr. Kevin Rudd, during his visit to India on 12 November, 2009. Mr. Rudd had reiterated that Australia had a zero tolerance to racial violence and was committed to taking all possible measures to protect the safety and welfare of all international students, including Indian students. The Indian Mission and Posts are pro actively following up these incidents very closely and are in constant touch with the Federal and State Governments in Australia at all levels.

At the instance of the Government of India, the Government of Australia have taken several important measures aimed at enhancing the safety and security of our students, both at the State as well as the Federal level, which have been useful.