

(a) whether it is a fact that many students including from Andhra Pradesh are stuck up in United Kingdom due to the non-availability of visas to come to India recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the actual reasons therefor; and

(c) the corrective steps being taken to avoid such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) to (c) Government of India does not have any information about Indian students being stuck in UK for want of visa to come to India. Indian citizens do not need visas to come to India.

Exchange of prisoners with UAE

1900. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any bilateral arrangement for exchange of prisoners has been made with the Government of United Arab Emirates in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) when is the arrangement expected to come into effect; and

(d) estimate of the number of Indian prisoners to benefit from such an agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) Yes.

(b) An agreement on transfer of sentenced persons was signed between India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on November 23, 2011 during the visit of Interior Minister of UAE to India.

(c) Agreement was ratified by Indian side on May 18, 2012 and by UAE side on December 9, 2012. The agreement will be operationalised on the date of last notification when one side will inform the other side through diplomatic channels regarding completion of its internal procedure necessary for its entry into force.

(d) Not applicable.