

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 190
ANSWERED ON 08.08.2024

ATTACKS ON INDIAN STUDENTS ABROAD

***190. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI:**

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a spike in attacks on Indian students abroad;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last one year; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to ensure a safe and inclusive environment for the students?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR)

(a to c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) in respect of Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 190 for reply on 08.08.2024 regarding ‘Attacks on Indian Students abroad’.

(a & b) Data available with the Indian Missions/Posts abroad pertaining to attacks on Indian students abroad for the last 2 years and this year till date is attached at Annexure ‘A’. There appears to be no particular pattern or trend with respect to such incidents.

(c) Providing safety and security to Indian students abroad is one of the top most priorities of the Government of India. Indian Missions/Posts abroad maintain regular contacts with Indian students enrolled in Universities abroad. New Indian students, enrolled in foreign Universities, are often invited to participate in events organised by Indian Missions/Posts abroad. Senior Embassy officials also visit foreign Universities and Educational Institutions in their respective countries of accreditation to regularly interact with Indian students and Indian Students’ Associations.

Indian Missions/Posts abroad encourage Indian students travelling abroad for higher studies to register with them as also on the MADAD Portal so that their grievances and outstanding issues can be addressed in a time bound manner. They encourage Indian students to remain connected on a regular basis and make all possible efforts to respond to the outstanding issues faced by them on a priority basis. The grievances of the students are responded to almost on a real time basis through telephone calls, walk-ins, emails, social media, 24x7 emergency helplines, open houses and the MADAD Portal. Any complaint received from the Indian students abroad are taken up with the concerned University/Institution and the host Government, as the case may be for requisite action.

Cases of untoward incidents are immediately taken up by the Indian Missions/Posts abroad with the concerned authorities of the host country. During emergencies or crisis situations, Indian Missions/Posts abroad pro-actively help distressed/stranded Indian students overseas by providing them food, shelter, medicines and ensure their return/evacuation to India as soon as possible. Most recently, stranded Indian students were evacuated to India through the Vande Bharat Mission, Operation Ganga (Ukraine), Operation Kaveri (Sudan) and Operation Ajay (Israel) from countries around the world. The return of many Indian students from Bangladesh was also facilitated by our High Commission.

Violent Attacks Against Indian Students (2022-2024)				
Sl. No.	Name of Country	2022	2023	2024
1	Australia	1	2	1
2	USA	1	4	2
3	UK	1	7	4
4	Italy	0	0	3
5	Russia	0	12	1
6	Canada	1	1	5
7	Ireland	0	1	3
8	Iran	0	1	0
Total		4	28	19
