



DHARMIC
IDEAS & POLICY
FOUNDATION

The Rt. Hon. Sajid Javid MP
Home Office
Direct Communications Unit
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF
6th June 2018

Dear The Rt. Hon. Sajid Javid MP,

Re The Andrew Marr Show Interview 03.05.18 and your planned review of immigration policies

Dharmic Ideas & Policy Foundation (DIPF) found your interview on the Andrew Marr Show on Sun 3rd June wide ranging and quite interesting.

Your response that you were re-evaluating a number of areas of immigration policy is most welcome and we look forward to a policy that is both appropriate to deal with the concerns of the Govt and the wider community. There are specific areas we would appreciate your assistance and response on.

1. Short term visas

There is concern in the area of obtaining short term entry clearance (ordinary visas) for short visits. This was not discussed, and we would appreciate some guidance for the wider Dharmic community. We have a launch of two **Human Rights documentaries launch at the House of Commons on 20.6.18**. An application was made for short term visas as outlined in a letter addressed to Barry Gardiner MP (which is attached) by his constituent and the person who has offered to sponsor the documentary makers on behalf of DIPF. We also attach the relevant documents in support of the application and notice of refusal, from which it will be noted the very weak grounds visas have been refused. We understand that there a lot of applications that have been refused on such weak grounds.

3. Hindu Mandirs (Temples) have been facing regular difficulties over the last 5 to 10 years in getting visas for good Pandit's (priests) to work in our religious establishments. This is an issue Henry Smith MP for Crawley has raised with the Home Office and as we understand it a long-standing request for a meeting with the Home office is still pending. As part of your review, the Dharmic community would appreciate an opportunity to explain the background and how these issues could be dealt with due consideration, fairness, and be effective and in a proportionate manner.

4. Indian Doctors refused working permits - This was discussed, and we welcome the change. It would be helpful to have a note of the change of policy and how it has been stream lined for the benefit of the wider Dharmic community.

4. **Indian Student Visas** - As you will know, the number of Indian students applying to study in UK has dropped dramatically over the last few years. The balance of these students going to USA, Australia, Canada and now President Macron has made a formal "pitch". In case you missed it here is a short link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KIP30nqLqtg> . DIPF raises this issue because we believe it is in UK's interests to regain its position to be the first choice that will have short, medium and long-term benefits for the UK after Brexit. DIPF can offer you our input to help formulate a more appropriate policy for students.
5. **Black List of Countries for visas** - Can you please confirm if it is true that there is as "rumored a black list" of countries where by visas of any sort have more challenges or a higher criterion applied by the immigration service? Is India one of those counties?

We look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

Mukesh Naker, **Communications Officer**

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