

# OVERSEAS OVERWHELMED

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## Abroad Perspective - Korean investments in international education

The Korea International Trade Association (KITA) report entitled "Overseas Studies and Training Expenses" indicates that 162,000 Koreans went abroad for studies in the year 2002. Of that figure 16,000 students represented the age group of 18 and below, while 146,000 of the students represented the 18+ bracket. The total figure on expenditures of Korean students overseas was about \$2.85 billion last year. In comparison, only 45,000 foreigners decided to make Korea their education destination - an imbalance which, according to a KITA official, must be corrected by easing entry for international education institutions intending to set up partnerships with local universities.

Source: [http://www.koreaherald.co.kr/SITE/data/html\\_dir/2003/02/20/200302200009.asp](http://www.koreaherald.co.kr/SITE/data/html_dir/2003/02/20/200302200009.asp) •

## Let's Go Canada - Canadian universities have good reputation in Pakistan

This week in Lahore, Higher Edge COO Mel Broitman met with with Pakistan's High Commissioner to Canada. Mr. Broitman and His Excellency Mr. Shahid Malik addressed 300 students at the prestigious Aitchison College on the subject of higher education in Canada. Mr. Malik told his countrymen that after one year of his new post in Ottawa (his previous postings have included Washington and New Delhi) he is impressed by Canada's commitment to quality education at affordable cost, and said Canadian universities should be a favoured destination for many Pakistani high school graduates.

Mr. Malik said that with growing tensions for Pakistanis in the U.S., his High Commission in Ottawa, and Consulates in Toronto and Montreal have been fielding queries from young Pakistanis who are at school in the United States and want to transfer to Canadian universities. Mr. Malik would like to see swifter processing of Pakistani student visas (it currently take two to three months) and final medical clearances granted in Pakistan instead of sending files to the Canadian High Commission in New Delhi, India. He will express his concerns to Canadian diplomats in Islamabad who will gather for the visit of Canada's Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham, on March 14th. •

## Over the Counter - Kenyan students tracked for fraud

Lack of funds is often cited as a reason why foreign students may discontinue their studies and disappear without a trace. The U.S. government's tough new immigration rules aim to crack down on such cases.

Higher Edge spoke this week with Francis Otieno, former President of the Kenyan Students Association at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa. When asked if, through his work with the Kenyan Student Association, he had encountered students misrepresenting falsely that they were in the United States to study, Mr. Otieno could not recall any specific cases. He did, however, state that some students have returned home to brag about their successes working illegally in the U.S. Mr. Otieno also argues that international recruiters are not painting the full picture for Kenyan students who wrongly believe that tuition and living expenses will be covered by the salary from a part-time job.

Source: <http://allafrica.com/stories/200302170519.html> •

## Globe Tipping - Riding a Jakarta "Taksi"

Higher Edge's Indonesia Director Lucia Toha reports that taxi safety in Jakarta starts with choosing the right cab company to ride with. The Blue Bird Group is the most reliable company in the city, and offers its services in Surabaya and Bali as well. When arriving at Soekarno-Hatta International Airport, it is unsafe to accept a ride from an unaffiliated taxi driver. If arriving after-hours, reservations made with the Blue Bird Group's 24 Reservation Line beforehand will spare one any potential hassle. A ride into town will cost approximately \$14 USD.

The Blue Bird Group also has outlets in the city's major hotels, staffed by their own personnel. For an online reservation form, a tip-sheet on taxi safety and photos of Blue Bird Group taxis, visit <http://www.bluebirdgroup.com> •

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