

# OVERSEAS OVERWHELMED

HIGHER  
EDGE

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## OVER THE COUNTER

### *Indian Students In The UK*

The tremendous influx of Indian students to British universities is getting a backlash - in India. Growing criticism in the sub-continent points to misleading representations by allegedly academically mediocre British institutions with inflated tuition fees that attract large numbers of foreign students. Entitled, "Fee, Fo, Fum: A Neat Sum," the March 29, 2004 issue of India's influential and widely read news magazine *Outlook* presents several sides on the issue of whether Indian students are being exploited and simply subsidizing British higher-education by paying up to seven times the domestic fees, or benefiting from unprecedented opportunities abroad.

In the past few years, tens of thousands of student visas have been issued by the United Kingdom. During this period, Higher-Edge staff in the Indian sub-continent have repeatedly encountered a commonly held belief: rather than a permit to study, the visa is seen as much (if not more) as a ticket to immediate and long-term work in the UK. Students continue to flock to the UK, but many never end up in classes. The magazine reports that "every one of dozens of Indian students" interviewed all said they plan to stay on in Britain "somehow" and calls them "migrants on student visas."

Indian students and immigration is also the topic of our March/April 2004 *Insight, On-site: India* "Know The Student" report.

Source: "[Fee, Fo, Fum: A Neat Sum.](#)" *Outlook*, 29 March 2004. (Registration required)

## GLOBE TIPPING

### *Electricity Overseas*

Traveling overseas with electrical appliances (shavers, hair dryers, etc.) can be a hassle. With varying voltage (North America uses 110 volts, while most of the world uses 220-240 volts) it is useful to carry a portable transformer.

Another useful tool is a multiple adapter plug, as there are 14 different plug shapes used in the world!

For a handy guide to voltage and plugs used in countries, visit:

<http://users.pandora.be/worldstandards/electricity.htm>

## ABROAD PERSPECTIVE

### *Australian University Cricket Tour In India*

Queensland, which attracted 10% of Indian students studying in Australian universities in 2003, has approached international student recruitment in the Indian subcontinent from a clever angle – through cricket. Players from the State's nine universities recently toured India, in hopes of attracting potential students with an interest in the popular sport. According to Project Officer Sarah Schindeler, from the Queensland Department of Education, short-term scholarships will be available for two Indian students to enroll at the Queensland Cricket Academy.

The main purpose of the tour, however, was to promote Queensland as an overseas education destination. Schindeler said the visiting teams were accompanied by "an academic seminar series which profiled research and studies that are joint priorities for Australia and the Subcontinent, such as biotechnology, sustainable development and IT." She also stressed that academics would be the priority for future "incoming students, research exchanges or university-to-university agreements."

Source: "[Queensland University woos Indian students with cricket.](#)" *WebIndia123.com*, 28 March 2004.

## LET'S GO CANADA

### *Educ-Canada 2004: Egypt*

This year's Educ-Canada 2004 fair will be held in Egypt in September, with a two-day fair in Cairo (September 28 & 29) and a one-day fair in Alexandria (September 30). With other recruitment fairs being held in the Middle East and North Africa region in the same period, a tour of the area would be worthwhile. Similar fairs will be held in Tunis (October 3 to 6) and the UAE (Abu Dhabi on October 3 and Dubai on October 6, organized by the Canadian Education Centre Network).

The Canadian Embassy in Cairo has successfully organized two Educ-Canada fairs in October 2002 and October 2003 that were held in Cairo under the patronage of the Egyptian Prime Minister and inaugurated by him and the Minister of Higher Education. Both fairs had 24 and 27 Canadian educational institutions respectively and approximately 3000 visitors over the 3 days for each fair, making these fairs the largest foreign education fairs in Egypt. Educ-Canada is turning out to be an annual event for networking, collaboration between Canadian and Egyptian universities, and student recruitment.

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