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GROWING CHARM

OF

CSS

AMONG

YOUTH

Numbers Tell a Different Story

Recent Exam Trends

Year	Applicants
2022	20262
2023	13008
2024	15602
2025	12792



Global Concerns about the Indian Cultural Invasion of the West



India's rapidly expanding diaspora in Western countries is increasingly reshaping local cultural landscapes. The religious festivals, such as Diwali, marked by fireworks, oil lamps and open flames,

have led to several tragic incidents in recent years, which have become a cause of concern for local residents. Here are some examples:

- A 2023 Diwali celebration in Hounslow and West London turned fatal when fireworks ignited a house fire, which left six people dead.
- Similar incidents have been reported in Canada, where multiple homes in Brampton and Mississauga caught fire during Diwali celebrations in 2022 and 2023, prompting Canada's fire department to issue public warnings about the misuse of fireworks.
- In November 2024, several fire departments across the US, from New Jersey to California, reported house fires and burn injuries due to Diwali fireworks.
- In October 2025, Australian authorities in Melbourne and Sydney repeatedly cautioned the

India has the world's largest diaspora population, estimated at 35.4 million people residing across major Western countries, including the US, UK, Canada and Australia. This rising number of Indians is now drawing increasing scrutiny, especially for polluting ecosystems, misusing religious freedom and causing growing job insecurity for local populations in Western capitals. Indians are taking their culture and religion to the West rather than integrating with host societies, which is a potential threat to Western norms and civilization.

Indian community after residential fires and property damage linked to Diwali festivities.

- A recent trend on social media whereby videos showing members of the Indian diaspora performing religious rituals involving the dumping of offerings, idols and decorative materials into rivers and lakes, has sparked outrage across several Western countries.
- In August 2025, videos of polluted riverbanks in Ontario and British Columbia went viral in Canada.
- In October 2025, environmental groups in Leicester and Birmingham, UK, criticized similar acts for contaminating local waterways.
- Indians have also significantly expanded their presence in Western labour markets, generating debates over job security for local populations.
- In Australia, the "March for Australia" anti-immigration rallies held on 31 August 2025 drew thousands of protesters in cities such as Melbourne and Sydney, highlighting public concerns that the Indian diaspora, comprising over 3.2 percent of Australia's population, is impacting local employment and cultural dynamics while raising slogans like "Smelly Indians" directed at Indian-origin residents.
- Several reports and media analyses highlight growing local concerns in Western countries that Indian workers are taking jobs previously held by locals.
- In the UK, Indian nationals held around 975,100 jobs as of December 2024, the largest share among all non-UK nationalities.
- A 2024 report by the UK taxes, payment and customs authority, i.e. HM Revenue and Customs, revealed that between December 2019 and December 2023, Indians filed around 487,900 new jobs, compared to 257,000 by UK nationals, sparking public debate over employment displacement.
- In March 2024, a case filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in the US revealed that the Indian IT giant Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) replaced American employ-

INTERNATIONAL

ees with Indian workers on H-1B visas, reinforcing fears that foreign professionals were undercutting local opportunities.

These examples reflect a rising perception across Western societies that the rapid growth of the Indian diaspora in labour markets is intensifying job insecurity and competition for locals.

The Indian cultural invasion and intensifying job insecurity for locals in the West have resulted in the tightening of visa policies by Western countries against Indian nationals. In this context, data from the International Trade Administration reveals that India recorded the largest global decline in student visas issued in 2025, with a 44.5 percent decrease compared to 2024. This pronounced decrease is primarily associated with the introduction of more stringent visa policies and enhanced security vetting by Western countries, suggesting an emerging nexus between political apprehensions and the evolving dynamics of international student mobility and academic exchange.

In the UK, the refusal rate for Indian visitor visas stood at approximately 17 percent in 2024, reflecting a more cautious approach toward inbound mobility. Similarly, USD100,000 application fee for new H-1B visas was introduced by the US in September 2025 — the primary work visa category for skilled foreign professionals, which was massively abused for years by Indian IT outsourcing firms. These companies manipulated the program to undercut American workers, often with the connivance of Indian-origin CEOs of the US IT giants. According to the BBC, this policy change is expected to immensely impact Indian applicants, who constitute nearly 70 percent of all H-1B visa-holders. In August 2025, the number of student visas issued by the US dropped by about one-fifth compared to the August 2024 number. Data from the International Trade Commission found that the US issued about 313,138 student visas in August 2025, a 19.1 percent decline compared to August 2024. Collectively, these developments underscore a broader shift toward restrictive immigration frameworks shaped by security concerns and growing apprehensions regarding India's transnational political influence.

COUNTRIES WITH MOST INDIAN DIASPORA

	U.S.	5,160,203
	U.A.E	4,425,144
	Saudi Arabia	2,594,947
	Malaysia	2,019,600
	Myanmar	2,009,207
	U.K.	1,927,150
	Canada	1,858,755
	S. Africa	1,697,506
	Oman	1,375,667
	Kuwait	1,152,175



- The trend is not confined to the US and UK but extends to other Western nations as well. For example:
- In New Zealand, nearly 32.5 percent of Indian visa applications were rejected in 2024, with student visa rejections reaching approximately 40 percent.
- Similarly, Australia tightened its immigration policies, with the rejection rate for Indian student visas rising to approximately 31.5 percent in 2024.
- In 2025, the number of Canadian study permits granted to Indian students dropped by 31 percent compared to the previous year, with only about 30,650 permits issued in the first quarter of 2025 against 44,295 in 2024.
- According to the 2025 report by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), approximately 47,000 international students were living in Canada illegally, among whom 20,000 were of Indian origin.

These developments reflect a broader pattern of increasing scrutiny of Indian nationals, driven by growing national security concerns.

The ever-increasing legal and illegal footprint of the Indian diaspora in the

West is no longer a simple byproduct of globalization or migration; it reflects a multidimensional process of cultural, ideological and socioeconomic penetration that is subtly reshaping Western societies. The growing Indian diaspora has contributed to rising job competition, particularly in services and technology sectors, while simultaneously introducing cultural and religious practices that often conflict with local

norms and environmental standards. The facts suggest that the international community has woken up to the threat and is taking appropriate measures to protect environmental sustainability, social harmony, educational institutions, cultural traditions and value systems of their countries from Indian multifarious onslaught on Western societies. ▣

The writer is a Research Officer at the Center for International Strategic Studies Sindh (CISSS). She is MPhil International Relations from University of Karachi. Previously, she worked as Research Assistant with the Faculty member of Prince Muhammad Bin Fahad University, Saudi Arabia.