

## OCTOBER VISA AVAILABILITY

The bulletin issued by the Visa Office of the Bureau of Consular Affairs of the U.S. Department of State gives the following availability position for issuance of immigrant visas during October 2006:

### Persons Chargeable to India

#### Family-Sponsored Preferences

1st Preference	May 01, 2000
2nd Preference	
2A	Apr 22, 2001
2B	Jan 01, 1997
3rd Preference	Oct 22, 1998
4th Preference	Aug 01, 1995

#### Employment-Based Preferences

1st Preference	Current
2nd Preference	Jun 15, 2002
3rd Preference	Apr 22, 2001
Schedule A Workers	Current
Other Workers	Jan 01, 2001
4 <sup>th</sup> Preference	Current
Certain Religious Workers	Current
5th Preference	Current
Targeted Emp Areas	Current

### Persons Chargeable to Other Countries

For other chargeability areas, including Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, United Kingdom, and the nations of Africa, the cut-off dates for October 2006 are:

#### Family-Sponsored Preferences

1st Preference	May 01, 2000
2nd Preference	
2A	Apr 22, 2001
2B	Jan 01, 1997
3rd Preference	Oct 22, 1998
4th Preference	Sep 15, 1995

### Employment-Based Preferences

1st Preference	Current
2nd Preference	Current
3rd Preference	May 01, 2002
Schedule A Workers	Current
Other Workers	Jan 01, 2001
4th Preference	Current
Certain Religious Workers	Current
5th Preference	Current
Targeted Emp Areas	Current

### ONE YEAR H-2B RELIEF EXTENSION INCLUDED IN DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

According to reports, a one-year extension of H-2B cap relief was included in the conference report to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007.

In general, Section 214(g)(9) of the Immigration and Nationality Act is amended by amending the first sentence of subparagraph (A) to read as follows:

"Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C), an alien who has already been counted toward the numerical limitation of paragraph (1)(B) during fiscal year 2004, 2005, or 2006 shall not again be counted toward such limitation during fiscal year 2007."