
For Indians, Costly Visa Ruins Plans

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HYDERABAD, INDIA — Sai Jagruthi, a 17-year-old engineering student at a giant technical university in the south Indian city of Hyderabad, remembers exactly where she was when she heard the news.

She had just finished a dinner of okra and rice in the student cafeteria, she said, when her father called to tell her about a proclamation President Trump had made from the White House on Sept. 19. Every H-1B visa, a work permit that has brought millions of Indians to the United States since the 1990s, would now come with a \$100,000 fee. “My dreams were shattered,” she said.

She recalled her father saying, “‘It was the best option, and we are going to lose it.’” For Ms. Jagruthi, excelling at her studies was a family affair. Her father, who works at a bank, “wants a better life for their daughters than his own. Going to the U.S. was a ticket

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