



Consider the following key provisions under the Immigration and Foreigners Bill, 2025:

1. The Bill introduces special visa categories for high-skilled workers and foreign investors.
2. It strengthens penalties on carriers (airlines, shipping companies) for transporting unauthorized persons into India.
3. The Bill allows the government to deny visas to individuals based on their country's diplomatic relations with India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Solution: D

Statement 1 is correct: The Bill introduces special visa categories to



attract high-skilled professionals, researchers, and investors, aligning with India's economic growth and global talent needs.

Statement 2 is correct: It increases penalties on carriers (airlines, shipping companies) for transporting unauthorized foreign nationals without proper documentation, ensuring better compliance with immigration laws.

Statement 3 is correct: The Bill gives the Indian government the power to deny visas based on diplomatic relations with other countries, allowing it to block entries from nations that pose security or foreign policy risks.

About Immigration and Foreigners Bill, 2025:

What is the Immigration Bill?

The bill aims to consolidate and modernize existing immigration laws in India.

It seeks to replace four existing laws:

The Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920

The Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939

The Foreigners Act, 1946



## The Immigration (Carriers' Liability) Act, 2000

Nodal Ministry

Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Government of India

### Key Features of the Bill

**Regulation of Foreign Nationals:** Mandates passport and visa requirements for entry and stay in India.

Establishes a clear legal framework for deportation, detention, and registration.

**Centralized Database & Monitoring:** Introduces digital tracking of foreigners, ensuring real-time immigration data.

Makes hospitals, universities, and institutions responsible for reporting foreign nationals.

**Streamlining Existing Laws:** Eliminates redundant and outdated provisions from pre-Constitution laws.

Brings immigration regulations under a single comprehensive law.

**No Appeal Mechanism for Immigration Officers' Decisions:** Grants immigration officers absolute authority in deciding entry and stay.



Critics argue this violates natural justice and constitutional rights.