FEBRUARY 2008 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 February 2008:

Persons Chargeable to India

Family-Sponsored Preferences

1st Preference	Feb 08, 2002
2nd Preference	
2A	Mar 15, 2003
2B	Jan 01, 1999
3rd Preference	May 08, 2000
4th Preference	Oct 08, 1996

Employment-Based Preferences

1st Preference	Current
2nd Preference	Unavailable
3rd Preference	May 08, 2001
Other Workers	Oct 01, 2001
4 th Preference	Current
Certain Religious	
Workers	Current
5 th 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 February 2008 are:

Family-Sponsored Preferences

1st Preference	Feb 08, 2002
2nd Preference	
2A	Mar 15, 2003
2B	Jan 01,1999
3rd Preference	May 08, 2000
4th Preference	Jul 08, 1997

Employment-Based Preferences

1st Preference	Current
2nd Preference	Current
3rd Preference	Nov 01, 2002
Other Workers	Oct 01, 2001
4th Preference	Current
Certain Religious	
Workers	Current
5th Preference	Current
Targeted Emp	
Areas	Current

SCREENING OF ARRIVING PEOPLE

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is an agency within the Department of Homeland Security. CBP officers must screen all arriving people, goods and vehicles to make sure they meet all requirements for entry into the United States.

Why you may be chosen for an inspection

You may be subjected to an inspection for a variety of reasons including but not limited to:

- Your travel documents are incomplete, or you do not have the proper documents or visa;
- You have previously violated one of the laws CBP enforces;
- You have a name that matches a person of interest in one of the enforcement databases; or
- You have been selected for a random search.

A search, however, may not be made on any discriminatory basis (e.g., solely based on race, gender, religion, ethnic background).

CBP collects information about people traveling into and out of the United States.

This includes basic biographic data, travel documents and their unique identifiers, where the traveler is staying in the U.S. and the planned purpose for the traveler's visit.

If you are subject to inspection, you should be treated in a courteous. dignified, and professional manner. Department of Homeland Security **Traveler Redress Inquiry Program (DHS** TRIP) provides a single point of contact for individuals who experience repeated referrals for security screenings or who believe that they have been denied boarding or entry into the United States because of inaccurate or incorrect information about them in law enforcement records, or because they have been confused with someone who is a concern to U.S. authorities. For more information, you may browse the DHS TRIP website at: <u>http://www.dhs.gov/trip.</u>