

Hike in fee of H-1B and L-1 visas to hamper US Economic Growth
- *It will also be discriminatory for Indian IT Companies: FICCI*

NEW DELHI, 22 December 2015: FICCI feels that the hike in special fee on the popular H-1B and L-1 visas for James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2010 will hamper the growth of the US economy and will be discriminatory for Indian IT companies. Such legislation will have a negative bearing on efforts made by the strategic partnership efforts made by Indian and US governments trying to build stronger trade ties.

Indian IT industry is of the opinion that the additional fee is unjustified similar to the earlier border security and now Health and compensation Act it has little relation with the technology industry. Such legislations not only impact business of the Indian IT sector but also limit access to skilled IT personnel for US companies. Moreover, increasing costs of hiring IT skilled personnel & services will influence US technology companies to consider moving IT operations overseas, thereby reducing US jobs and tax revenues. In the longer run, it will also imbalance Americas IT services and products consumer market.

In our view linking unemployment and H1-B visa issue with 9/11 Health and Compensation Act is unfair and should be dealt independently with a much broader outlook considering the overall impact on both economies.