

Four Australian Colleges close down, leaving students in lurch

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Gujarat Global News Network, Ahmedabad Hundreds of students from Gujarat have been left in lurch as four private colleges in Melbourne and Sydney in Australia have closed down. The colleges have more than 2,700 foreign students mostly from India and South East Asia.

These students are facing twin tragedy since Indian students are living under the fear of racial attacks.

It was a rude shock for the students when they found the doors of the colleges shut in the morning. There was no advance intimation nor anyone had any idea of the tragedy. There were signs saying that the colleges had gone out of business. The colleges owned by China based Global Campus Management of Meriden group are located in 13 campuses in the two cities of Australia.

The colleges offer courses in hospitality, design, fashion and English language. There are many students who have just 15 days left in their final examinations. No one was there to answer their queries. The students have paid huge sum of 20,000 Australian dollars for study.

Shell shocked students are demanding that the Australian government should intervene in the matter. On the other hand officials in the country's education department said that the government was reviewing legislation covering such colleges. There are more than 1.50 lakh foreign students in Australia. Majority are from India. Six months back the government had cracked down on privately run colleges. Many were bogus and ran a racket of providing permanent resident status of Australia, officials said. They added that tough regulations and auditing of private colleges would be introduced next year. For news in Hindi see our Hindi daily Chaupal Chronicle