

Deadline set on Indian safety

"Make affordable accommodation available to all new international students"

The national student union has set the Federal Government a September deadline to introduce a raft of measures aimed at improving international student safety.

The campaign for student safety was triggered earlier this year following a spate of brutal attacks on Indian students, often as they walked home alone late at night from the train station.

Many of the attacks left students hospitalised resulting in a widespread outcry for action to be taken.

The Indian Government demanded that Australian authorities do more to protect Indian students as the violence made headlines across India.

Indian Foreign Minister S.M. Krishna said he was

"appalled" by the attacks.

Up to 2000 members of Melbourne's Indian population marched through Melbourne's central business district in protest and Indian students catching late-night trains home to St Albans organised their own protection, gathering together.

The outcry raised fears for the reputation and future of Victoria's multibillion-dollar education industry, the state's biggest export earner.

Education's contribution to Victoria's economy was estimated at \$4.5 billion last year. Of 93,000 Indians students in Australia, 38,000 are in Victoria.

The National Union of Students has released a comprehensive list of actions to improve safety.



Walk for harmony

The Victorian Government organized a Walk for Harmony earlier this month celebrating Victoria's multicultural community and rejecting violence against international students.

Picture courtesy RMIT

They call for the community and government to be more informed about

the working hours and lifestyles of the international student community, in order

to address the needs for safer public transport late at night

They also want safety information to be a compulsory item in orientation sessions for all international students, police in each state to be provided with professional development that includes cultural awareness and government funding into a student safety centre

The Union also calls for increased state government funding for employment rights services and the amending of the migration act to allow international students discretion with regard to working 20 hours per week.

Every education provider should make affordable accommodation available to all new international students for the first 12 months, the

Union says and increased government funding for housing should be provided as well as travel concessions for all international students in line with local students.

National Union of Students president, David Barrow said "while Australia remains one of the best destinations for international students to come and study, there are clearly problems when internationals are being swindled by dodgy English language providers, bosses and landlords and face violence and racism on campus and public transport."

The Union released its report last month and plans to release a follow-up report on September 30 tracking university, local, state and commonwealth government progress.

FREE Total Training DVD!

When you buy Adobe CS4 Design Standard, Design Premium, Web Premium, Production Premium or Master Collection (All Student Editions)

LEARN ADOBE PHOTOSHOP CS4 EXTENDED

DVD valued at \$89 RRP (via redemption)

VALID TO 30 NOVEMBER 2009.

TOTAL TRAINING

Proudly distributed by **SCHOLASTIC** MEDIA & TECHNOLOGY

To purchase any of the above products please contact your preferred reseller or call Customer Service on 1800 665 774.

THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

PRACTICAL LEGAL TRAINING AT ANU LEGAL WORKSHOP

Your pathway to legal practice

We offer:

- Flexible on-line course delivery
- Up to 15 intakes per year
- Skills for Practice offered in Melbourne, Geelong, Brisbane, Townsville, Darwin, Sydney and Canberra
- Tuition by practising lawyers
- Your choice of 20, 40, 60 or 80 days placement
- Direct admission to legal practice in NSW, QLD, ACT, VIC and NT
- Reciprocal admission to legal practice in WA, SA and TAS
- Concurrent enrolment with your LLB & JD studies

Visit the Legal Workshop website to find out more about your pathway to legal practice.

Enquiries: E: lwsa@law.anu.edu.au T: 02 6125 0458 W: <http://law.anu.edu.au/legalworkshop>

030209Utimes