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Bad news for 10 lakh Indians as Donald Trump set to curtail...


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US Elections



Donald Trump at the rally in Latrobe, Pennsylvania where he shared a story about golfer Arnold Palmer's naked body. (REUTERS)
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US Presidential Election Results 2024: Republican Donald Trump has defeated Vice President Kamala Harris, recapturing the White House. With crucial projections from Alaska and Wisconsin, Donald Trump now has 279 electoral votes, while Kamala Harris stands at 223. Trump, who is likely to be the incoming President of the United States of America (USA), is expected to end automatic citizenship for children. The plan is to sign an executive order to this effect on Day 1 itself. This has been posted on the official Trump-Vance campaign site,



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The draft executive order reads, "It will direct federal agencies to require that at least one parent be a US citizen or lawful permanent resident for their future children to become automatic US citizens." This means that the automatic citizenship for children will not end just for children born to illegal immigrants. It will go way beyond

The draft executive order claims to correctly interpret the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, but immigration advocates disagree, arguing that if enacted, the order will face legal challenges in court.

Talking exclusively to the Times of India, Rajiv S. Khanna, immigration attorney said, "The Trump plan suggests no automatic citizenship for children born in the US. This is almost certainly a contravention of the 14th Amendment of the US Constitution. A Supreme Court judgement is available to counter Trump's misinterpretation. "

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they go so far as to exclude children of people legally in the US,"

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It will be huge setback for the Indian diaspora if it passed. According to an analysis of the US Census (2022) done by Pew Research, US was home to about 4.8 Indian Americans, of whom 34% or 1.6 million were born in the US.

If this executive order is passed, going forward, children born to Indian couples, neither of whom is a US citizen or a green card holder (permanent resident) will not be eligible for automatic citizenship.

Indians get the short end of the stick when it comes to allotment of green cards many working in the US on H-1B visas are caught in a decades-long backlog.

For example, when it comes to employment linked green cards, the overall cap is set at 140,000 per year plus any unused family-sponsored green cards that can be passed on to this category. In addition to the annual caps, be it for employment or family based green cards, no country can receive more than seven percent of the green cards. This adversely impacts Indians in the employment linked category.

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