

## BD promising choice for Indian med students returning from Ukraine

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Dhaka: Bangladesh can emerge as a new promising venue of choice for Indian medical students returning from Ukraine after being forced out of their studies following the Russian invasion.

However, India's National Medical Commission (NMC) already said that Indian medical graduates with incomplete internships due to situations beyond their control like Covid-19 or war can finish the same in India.

Yet, MBBS courses in Bangladesh is a big draw for students from the Jammu and Kashmir state of India, stated reports.

According to medical education admission portals like Leverage Edu, CollegeDekho, Edurizon, Edunom, Wonk and LilacBuds, parents of the students have already begun exploring options other than Ukraine for their wards to complete the medical courses.

Reports mentioned Lambodar Rout, Director of Edunom, saying his firm has already started speaking to parents of Indian students, who returned from Ukraine, for other countries including Bangladesh.

The cost of MBBS course in Ukraine, Russia and central Asian countries such as Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan is estimated around Rs 30-35 lac, according to reports.

"With the conflict going on between Ukraine and Russia, we think that countries like Bangladesh, Nepal, Germany, Spain and Italy will see an increase in demand," said Tarun Aggarwal, Chief Business Officer and Head of Study Abroad, CollegeDekho portal.

MBBS in Bangladesh and Nepal costs a bit higher at around Rs 40-50 lac for the entire duration while it is Rs 55-60 lac in Spain, Italy and Germany, he added.

Akshay Chaturvedi, Founder of Leverage Edu, said, MBBS courses in Bangladesh have always ranked on the lower end of the Top 10 countries to study for Indian students. But the Ukraine crisis has changed the scene and "we are looking at Bangladesh and Nepal as alternative countries".

Reports claimed one advantage of studying medicine in Bangladesh and Nepal is that Indian students get an exposure to studying diseases and treatment methods which are similar to those in India.

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