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## IMMIGRANT VISA AVAILABILITY UNDER THE MARCH VISA BULLETIN CONTINUES TO ADVANCE FOR INDIA AND CHINA EB-2 CATEGORY

The Department of State (DOS) has published the <u>March 2012 Visa Bulletin</u> announcing that the priority date for the India and China employment-based second preference (EB-2) categories is May 1, 2010, which is a four-month advance over the February cut-off date of January 1, 2010. In January, the date was January 1, 2009, so the category has advanced well over a year in just a few months.

The China and India employment second preference cut-off date has been advanced at a rapid rate in recent months. This action was intended to generate significant levels of new filings for adjustment of status at CIS offices. CIS has reported that the rate of new filings is currently far below that which they had anticipated, prompting an even more aggressive movement of the cut-off date for March and possibly beyond. While this action greatly increases the potential for an eventual retrogression of the cut-off at some point during the year, it also provides the best opportunity to utilize all numbers available under the annual limit.

Applicants with current priority dates, or priority dates that will become current in the near future should contact their FosterQuan immigration attorney for additional information regarding application for an immigrant visa at a U.S. Embassy/Consulate abroad, or application for Adjustment of Status with USCIS in the United States.