

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3341  
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2002  
PASSPORT TO AFGHAN NATIONALS  
MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARY;SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government are aware that several Afghan Nationals, living in India as refugees, have managed to procure Indian passports in connivance with Passport Officers;
- (b) if so, the number of such cases which have come to light so far; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

- (a) Yes.
- (b) Since the middle of 1999, 65 such cases have been detected.
- (c) All 65 passports were issued by Regional Passport Office, Delhi on the basis of clear police reports or verification certificates issued by officers of the rank of Deputy Secretary and above to the Government of India. Passports in all these cases have been revoked. The police authorities have taken appropriate action against the Afghan nationals concerned and also against the government officials who provided the clear verification reports/certificates.