

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2310
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2005
FAKE TRAVEL AGENTS
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan;Singh Shri Uday

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of several fake airlines travel agents operating in the country;
- (b) if so, the facts and details thereof;
- (c) whether such unauthorised travel agents continue to fleece gullible youths on the pretext of sending them abroad by using illegal means;
- (d) if so, the facts thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a and (b):- There are over 2000 accredited International Air Transport Association (IATA) agents and several thousand agents who are non IATA but conduct business by ticketing through IATA agents. No data is maintained by the Government about such travel agents .

(c),(d) and (e):- Specific cases of cheating, if any are to be dealt by the local police authorities. However, Immigration Authorities and Airlines step up vigilance at the airports to thoroughly check the travel documents.