

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2878

ANSWERED ON:11.08.2010

TRAVEL ON FAKE PASSPORT

Chaudhary Shri Arvind Kumar; Chauhan Shri Sanjay Singh; Shekhar Shri Neeraj; Yadav Shri Ranjan Prasad

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

- (a) whether a large number of passengers of ill fated flight of Air India Express at Mangalore were travelling on forged documents/passports;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the factual position in this regard; and
- (c) the preventive measures taken to avoid use of fake passports in future?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA)

(a) & (b): No. However, there were news reports immediately after the air crash that several passengers had travelled on forged/fake passports. Such reports possibly emanated due to non-availability of passport details of several passengers in the online data base of the Passport Information Services on Net (PISON) which maintains data of passports issued by our Missions abroad since 2008 only. On verification, all these passports have been confirmed as genuine.

(c): Does not arise.