## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2982 ANSWERED ON:11.08.2010 LEAKAGE OF INFORMATION Jardosh Smt. Darshana Vikram

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

(a) the details of steps taken to prevent leakage/theft of sensitive and crucial document and information related to security of the country from Indian missions abroad; and

(b) the details of the steps taken to monitor statistical data of visa stickers and passports from the Missions abroad to avoid misuse?

## Answer

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

(a): Procedures already exist and are implemented for the security and custody of sensitive and crucial documents and information related to security of the country in all Indian Missions abroad. These are supported by constant vigil and monitoring.

(b): There are standing instructions from the Ministry to the Missions/Posts abroad for periodic physical verification and stock-taking of all travel documents including passports and visa stickers, in order to ensure their safety and accountability. In the event of any loss of blank travel documents, all Passport Issuing, and Immigration authorities are notified immediately.