

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3236

ANSWERED ON:28.07.2009

FAKE VISAS

Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu;Singh Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan

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

- (a) whether cases of issue/use of fake visas have been reported in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details of such cases reported, persons apprehended/convicted during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken to check such fraudulent practices?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) to (c): A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3236 FOR ANSWER ON 28.07.2009 BY SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH AND SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY (a) to (c): As per available information, the number of cases of forgery in visas and travel documents detected at the major International Airports controlled by Bureau of Immigration (BoI) during each of the last three years and the current year (upto 30.6.2009) are given in the table below:

Sl. No. Number of cases  
Year reported

1. 2006 1492
2. 2007 1251
3. 2008 865
4. 2009 473 (upto 30.6.2009)

As and when such cases of forgery in visas and travel documents are detected, prompt action is taken against such persons by law enforcement agencies under the law. However, data with regard to persons apprehended/convicted in cases related to issue/use of fake visas is not centrally maintained.

A number of steps have been taken by the Government to check travel by persons on forged / fake documents. These steps include:

- (i) Use of Ultra Violet Lamps, Magnifying glasses and specimen copies of travel documents for comparison at all the Immigration Check Posts (ICPs) for scrutinizing the features of the travel documents;
- (ii) Installation of Passport Reading Machines (PRMs) and Questionable Document Examiner (QDX) Machines at major ICPs for detection of sophisticated forgeries in the travel documents;
- (iii) Installation of Immigration Control System (ICS) Software which verifies the passport details of passengers to prevent impersonation;
- (iv) Special training is also imparted to Immigration Officers manning immigration counters at the ICPs on a regular basis to detect forged/fake travel documents.