

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:443

ANSWERED ON:02.08.2011

FORGED VISAS

Jaiswal Shri Gorakh Prasad ;Sinh Dr. Sanjay

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

- (a) whether the Government has maintained the records regarding the people arrested/convicted in the cases of forged visas;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to check issue/use of forged visas in the country?

**Answer**

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

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

STATEMENT IN REPLY LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 443 FOR 02.08.2011.

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. There are 77 Immigration Check Posts (ICPs) in the country. 16 ICPs are managed by Bureau of Immigration (BoI). The remaining ICPs are managed by respective State Government/Union Territory Administration. As far as BoI maintained ICPs are concerned, the records regarding people arrested/convicted in the country on forged visas are maintained by BoI. For other ICPs, the record is maintained by the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration. The Indians intercepted Travelling on forged foreign visa at ICPs are handed over to the police for further action. The foreigners intercepted with forged visa at the time of arrival are refused entry into India and are deported back to the port of embarkation from the Immigration Check Post.

(c): A number of steps have been taken by the Government to prevent travel by persons on forged visa. These steps include:

(i) Machine Readable Zone (MRZ) has been included in the new Indian Visa sticker.

(ii) Photographs of the visa holder has been introduced in the new visa sticker to be issued by the Indian Missions.

(iii) The Immigration officers have been provided with technical gadgets i.e. Ultraviolet lamps and magnifying glasses, QDX machines, Passport Reading Machines etc. to detect forgeries.

(iv) Visa details of foreigners coming to India from some countries are available in Visa PISON system to the Immigration authorities for cross checking of visa details.

(v) The specimen copies of the visa stickers of different countries are provided to the Immigration counter officers to ascertain genuineness of the doubtful visas.

(vi) Special training is organized on the detection of forgeries in travel documents for the Immigration counter officers.