GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3285 ANSWERED ON:14.12.2011 FORGED VISA APPLICATIONS Panda Shri Baijayant;Rajukhedi Shri Gajendra Singh

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that as per statement made by the Prime Minister of United Kingdom (UK), 30% student applications for grant of visa to UK, were found to be forged in Delhi;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have received complaints from foreign embassies and High Commissions about forged visa stickers of various countries being used by Indian nationals;
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the number of complaints received; and
- (e) the details of action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SMT. PRENEET KAUR)

(a) & (b) The Prime Minister of United Kingdom during a speech delivered on 10th October, 2011 on immigration issues said the following: "...when it comes to bogus colleges and bogus students, we have to be equally clear. They have no place in our country. In June last year in New Delhi for example, more than a third of student applications, verified by the visa section, were found to contain forged documents. Private colleges now have to face far more rigorous checks on the quality of their education provision before they can sponsor international students...."

The Government of India is not in a position to know whether any application made for grant of student visa to UK is forged or otherwise as the application and supporting documents are submitted to the UK High Commission/Deputy High Commissions and not to the Government.

(c) to (e) This Ministry has not received any complaint from foreign embassies and High Commissions about forged visa stickers of foreign countries being used by Indian nationals.