

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2670

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2014

CONVICTS OF VISA FRAUD

Devi Smt. Rama;Jadhav Shri Prataprao Ganpatrao

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the records regarding arrest/conviction of persons in connection with issuing/using fake visas are not maintained by the Government;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government is facing any difficulty in formulating strategy or formulates strategy randomly for effective control of any visa related criminal cases for want of such records; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJU)

- (a): No, Madam. Records are maintained by the Government regarding arrest/conviction of persons in connection with issuing/using fake visas.
- (b): Does not arise.
- (c) to (d): A number of steps have been taken by the Government to prevent travel by persons on forged visa. These steps include:
 - (i) Special training is organized on the detection of forgeries in travel documents for the Immigration counter officers.
 - (ii) The specimen copies of the visa stickers of different countries are provided to the Immigration counter officers to ascertain genuineness of the doubtful visas.
 - (iii) Unique Case File relating to visa and immigration details are available with Immigration officer.
 - (iv) Machine Readable Zone (MRZ) has been included in the new Indian Visa sticker.
 - (v) Photographs of the visa holder has been introduced in the new visa sticker to be issued by the Indian Missions.
 - (vi) The Immigration officers have been provided with technical gadgets i.e. Ultraviolet lamps and magnifying glasses, Questionable Document Examiner (QDX) machines, Passport Reading Machines etc. to detect forgeries.