>

Title: Request to he government inquiry the matter where the newly issued passport booklet by Kozhikode Passport office other than the standard passport booklet.

SHRI M. K. RAGHAVAN (KOZHIKODE): Hon. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for allowing me to raise an urgent matter of public importance.

It has been reported in a newspaper that the newly issued passports from Kozhikode Passport Office deviate from the standard passport booklet. Now, we can see that it carries the lotus symbol instead of 'lion symbol'. The same passports are being used in the 36 passport offices in our country.

The hon. Minister is present here. The lotus is printed inside a rectangle on the page where the passport officer's signature and seal are seen. The lotus emblem causes a suspicion as it is the election symbol of the BJP, which is the Ruling Party at the Centre ...(*Interruptions*)

Sir, I can show a paper, 'Mathrubhumi', which has published this news with a photo. So, this is again a saffronisation of Government establishments.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Government that this booklet should be immediately withdrawn, and a high level inquiry be ordered into the matter. Thank you.