

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3534

ANSWERED ON:19.08.2003

FAKE TRAVELLING DOCUMENTS

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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the cases of fake travelling documents are increasing in the country;
- (b) if so, the number of such cases registered and persons arrested in various States during each of the last three years, till date;
- (c) the action taken against them; and
- (d) the steps taken to check such incidents?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D.SWAMI)

(a) to (c): As per information given by the National Crime Records Bureau, the number of incidents of fake passports reported and persons arrested under the Indian Passport Act, during the years 1999, 2000 and 2001, State-wise is enclosed at Annexure 'A'. While a decline of 34.5 per cent was noticed in the year 2000 over the year 1999 in the number of cases reported, an increase of 26.2 per cent noticed in the year 2001 over the year 2000.

(d): Regular training programmes are held for Immigration officials for effective detection of forged documents. In order to improve the security features the passport booklet has been redesigned to make it machine readable. Machine printing of passports has been introduced which has digitally scanned photograph and signatures along with the personal particulars on the data page before lamination. Machine printing of passports has been implemented in all Passport offices. In addition, there is also the Machine readable zone which contains personal particulars in coded form which can be read by machine readers at immigration counters making forgery difficult. Passport Reading machine has already been installed at IGI Airport, Delhi. Various security features have also been incorporated in the Indian passports and other travel documents such as heat activated ultra violet lamination sheet which contains invisible inks, micro lettering on each page, ultra fluorescent stitching thread, invisible ink in all the pages including page numbers, laser plate die-pressable impression on data pagers, 3-D water mark, laser perforated passport number on visa pages and fugitive ink which bleeds if an alternation is attempted by any chemical, etc. Laser UV lamps and magnifying glasses have been provided at the immigration check posts.

Government have also requested the police authorities to be vigilant while verifying the documents furnished by individuals.

Annexure-A

Statement referred to in the answer to part (a) to (c) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.3534 for 19.8.2003 regarding 'Fake Travelling Documents'

SL No. State/UT 1999 2000 2001

Incid- Persons Incid- Persons Incid- Persons
ence arrested ence arrested ence arrested

1 Andhra Pradesh	40	40	25	25	67	73
2 Arunachal Pradesh	2	2	1	1	0	0
3 Assam	54	75	3	3	9	9
4 Bihar	2	4	0	0	1	14
5 Chhatisgarh	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0
7 Gujarat	6	8	23	133	18	75
8 Haryana	9	7	4	8	1	1
9 Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
10 Jammu & Kashmir	33	23	21	19	7	3
11 Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	0	0
12 Karnataka	41	91	20	47	24	40
13 Kerala	41	51	23	34	34	27

14	Madhya Pradesh	2	2	2	0	1	0
15	Maharashtra	18	67	14	84	28	164
16	Manipur	0	0	0	0	2	4
17	Meghalaya	0	0	1	4	1	1
18	Mizoram	42	326	12	32	15	12
19	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	2	2
20	Orissa	0	0	0	0	0	0
21	Punjab	91	120	48	88	62	100
22	Rajasthan	17	14	26	25	48	31
23	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0
24	Tamil Nadu	19	25	34	72	27	35
25	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	Uttar Pradesh	4	4	9	8	5	22
27	Uttaranchal	0	0	0	0	3	3
28	West Bengal	12	12	10	10	1	2
29	A & N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0
30	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0
31	D & N Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0
32	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0
33	Delhi	39	34	33	37	32	35
34	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	Pondicherry	0	0	0	0	2	3

Total 472 905 309 630 390 656

Source:- Crime in India Publications.