

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1400
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2005
FAKE PAN RACKET
Nair Shri P.K. Vasudevan

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a racket for making and selling fake Permanent Account Number (PAN) by tampering with the data has been unearthed;
- (b) whether it is a fact that freelance data entry operators hired in the offices of various Income Tax Officers to help them in making PAN cards have been the culprits in this case;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the income tax officers had warned the Government when the Job was outsourced, about the danger of given access to the freelance operators to the official data; and
- (e) if so, the details and Government's reaction thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM)

- (a) An instance of tampering with data by some private persons by unauthorizedly obtaining password of some Assessing Officers at Delhi came to the notice of Income Tax Department in December, 2004.
- (b) The persons involved in this case were not hired by the Department.
- (c) Not applicable in view of the reply to (b) above.
- (d) No freelance data entry operator has been authorised access to departmental PAN database.
- (e) Not applicable in view of reply to (d) above.