

Consulate General of India
Osaka-Kobe

ADVISORY TO THE INDIAN COMMUNITY ON FRAUD PHONE CALLS

The Consulate General of India, Osaka-Kobe, would again like to draw attention of the Indian Community to fraudulent calls being received, especially by Indian students and professionals, from unscrupulous elements using name of Indian Embassy or Consulate from spoofed telephone numbers. The callers generally speak English and sometimes in Hindi. It is requested that in the event of receiving such calls, the number from which call has originated, date and time of call, contact number on which call was received and nature of demand or threat may be furnished to the local Police as well as CGI, Osaka Kobe at cons.osakakobe@mea.gov.in (in prescribed format below).

While the modus operandi seems to vary, the general method adopted by the criminals is as follows:

- Calls originate from many numbers including 0332622391, which is a spoofed number of the Embassy of India, Tokyo. Sometime calls have no caller ID, i.e. shows no number.
- These fraudsters ask personal details like work permit, visa details, home address (on the pretext of reverification by the Japanese Government, etc) or on the basis of personal details already in their possession (obtained from social media). The fraudsters threaten unsuspecting victims claiming that wrong/ inadequate information appears in his/her passport or immigration records due to which a case has been registered by the Police in India or in Japan and that cases are pending before Courts at India or Japan. The idea being to instill panic and urgency and demand that a fine or penalty be paid through Western Union money transfer/purchase I-tune Gift Cards through their credit/debit cards immediately to avoid imminent deportation proceedings.

All concerned, are therefore, advised to be vigilant and be on their guard against these fraudsters and their nefarious designs to extract money from unsuspecting victims, and not fall prey to this scam.

It is reiterated that Embassy does not call up people asking for money, etc, Such calls be ignored and reported promptly.

Format for information on Fraud Calls

Sl.No	Name with passport details of complainant	Current country of work	Call received from number and date on which received	Call received on number	Money transfer details		Name of final recipient of money as provided by Bank/Western Union	Place (country/district) where money was finally withdrawn/collected	Any Other Remarks
					Sender	Recipient			
					Give details of Bank account or Western Union (account number, transaction ID), Branch, Location from which fund was transferred and Date of transaction in this column	Give details of Bank Account or Western Union (account number, transaction ID) Branch, Location in which fund was transferred and date of transaction in this column			

Please note that the information provided by the victim will be kept confidential and will be used for the mentioned purpose only.

Cooperation of victims is valuable as it has proved beneficial in busting several modules operating with similar modus operandi in recent past, where money has been seized, making it possible to return some of it to the victims.

For any enquiry, please call Consulate **Telephone Nos.: 00-81-6-6261-7299/9299**. **Previous advisory by the Embassy of India, Tokyo** may be seen at https://www.indembassy-tokyo.gov.in/pdf/Advisory_on_Fraud_Calls_sep25.pdf.