

Embassy of India

Tokyo

Advisory to the Indian Community on Fraud Phone Calls

The Embassy of India, Tokyo would like to draw kind attention of Indian Community in Japan about fraudulent calls being received by members of Indian community, especially Indian students and professionals from unscrupulous elements using name of Indian Embassy and spoofed telephone numbers. The callers generally speak English and sometimes 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 Embassy of India, Tokyo at sscons.tokyo@mea.gov.in and mincons.tokyo@mea.gov.in (in prescribed format below).

The method adopted by the criminals is observed as follows:

- Calls originate from many numbers including 0332622391. It may be mentioned that it is the registered Embassy number but callers have spoofed this number. Sometime calls have no caller ID i.e. shows no number.
- These fraudsters ask personnel details like work permit details, visa details, home address (on pretexts like revivification by Japan Government, etc) OR on basis of already possessed personnel details (probably from various open sources including following social platforms like Facebook, Twitter) threatens unsuspecting victim about some wrong or inadequate information in his/her passport or immigration records due to which a case is registered by Police in India or in Japan and also cases are pending in the Courts at India or Japan. Hence, perpetrators instills panic and urgency and demand that a fine or penalty needs to be paid through Western Union money transfer/purchase I-tune Gift Cards through their credit/debit cards immediately or else deportation proceedings would be initiated.

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

3. It is reiterated that Embassy does not call up people to ask for money, etc, and hence 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	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 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.