

Embassy of India

Tokyo

Advisory to the Indian Community on Fraud Phone Calls

The Embassy of India, Tokyo would like to draw the attention of Indian Community in Japan about fraudulent calls being received by members of the community, especially Indian students and professionals, from unscrupulous elements using the name of the Indian Embassy and spoofed telephone numbers. The callers generally speak English or Hindi.

The method adopted by the criminals is often as follows:

- Calls originate from many numbers, including 0332622391. While this is the registered Embassy number, these callers have been able to spoof this number. Sometime calls have no caller ID i.e. show no number.
- Most often, the fraudsters claim that the call recipient has provided wrong or incomplete information to the Japanese authorities (or the Indian Embassy), and that if they do not transfer 'penalty' money immediately, they would either be sent back to India, or be sent to jail. They are in possession of personal details (usually through open sources like social media platforms), which lends authenticity to their claims.
- In some cases, they have now begun to ask for money so that their names could be included for consideration in the Vande Bharat Mission flights being organised by the Government of India.

The perpetrators aim to – and are able to – cause panic and urgency, and demand that the fine or penalty needs to be paid through Western Union money transfer/purchase I-tune Gift Cards, through credit/debit cards immediately or else deportation proceedings would be initiated.

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).

2. All concerned are advised to be vigilant and be on guard against these fraudsters. Do not fall prey to this scam.

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

Format for information on Spoofed 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	Name of final recipient of money as provided by Bank/Western Union	Place (country/district) where money was finally withdrawn/collected	Any other remarks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,	Give details of Bank Account or Western Union (account number, transaction ID)			

					Location from which fund was transferred and Date of transaction in this column	Branch, Location in which fund was transferred and date of transaction in this column			
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Your cooperation is invaluable as it has led to disrupting several such modules in the past.