



- 1. Please provide information regarding the 2007 immigration and passport scam in Fiji involving travel agent Alvin Raj; Indian nationals Manoj Kumar Khera, Prakash Garana, Kishore Jentilal Khera and Sanjay Jentilal Khera; and immigration officials Uday Kumar Nath and Eroni Tuberi. Please advise the current status of the case.**

Following an investigation of corruption in the Immigration Department, the Fiji Independent Commission against Corruption (FICAC) laid charges against travel agent Alvin Raj, Indian nationals Manoj Khera, Prakash Garana, Kishore Khera and Sanjay Khera and immigration officials Uday Kumar Nath and Eroni Tuberi in connection with an alleged passport scam.¹ The Suva Magistrate’s Court adjourned the case repeatedly between June 2007 and February 2008, and reports indicate that the court case was derailed over time as a result of developments in a related murder case.² All seven defendants were “discharged” by the court on 19 February 2008.³ There is no indication that a finding of guilt or innocence was ever made.

The sources located on the case offer only a partial record of events; the majority are from Fijian news providers and only one legal document was found – a High Court decision regarding the related murder case.

Passport scam case

The men involved in the alleged passport scam were charged as follows:

- Fijian travel agent Alvin Raj was charged with “one count of conspiracy to make false declaration in order to obtain a passport and one count of official corruption”.⁴ Alvin Raj had allegedly attempted to obtain a Fijian passport for Sanjay Khera under a false name and had paid a Fijian immigration official (a passports manager) to “show favour” to the other Indian nationals.⁵

¹ “Immigration officials, agent in court” 2007, *Fiji Times*, 1 June – Attachment 1; “Three in court for murder” 2007, *Fiji Times*, 5 June – Attachment 2; “Passport accused in court today” 2007, *Fiji Times*, 31 May – Attachment 3.

² “Passport accused in court today” 2007, *Fiji Times*, 31 May – Attachment 3; “Immigration officials, agent in court” 2007, *Fiji Times*, 1 June – Attachment 1; “Group implicated in passport scam appear in Court” 2007, *One National News* (Fiji TV), 22 June,

<http://www.fijitv.com.fj/index.cfm?si=main.resources&cmd=forumview&cbegin=3350&uid=newsnational&cid=3348> - Accessed 8 February 2010 – Attachment 4; “Passport scam case deferred to next year” 2007, *One National News* (Fiji TV), 12 November,

<http://www.fijitv.com.fj/index.cfm?si=main.resources&cmd=forumview&cbegin=6534&uid=newsnational&cid=6539> - Accessed 10 February 2010 – Attachment 5; “Scam suspects free to fly away” *Fiji Times*, 13 November – Attachment 6; “Seven walk free from corruption charge” 2008, *Fiji Sun*, 20 February – Attachment 7.

³ “Seven walk free from corruption charge” 2008, *Fiji Sun*, 20 February – Attachment 7.

⁴ “Immigration officials, agent in court” 2007, *Fiji Times*, 1 June – Attachment 1.

⁵ “Immigration officials, agent in court” 2007, *Fiji Times*, 1 June – Attachment 1.

- Fijian immigration officials Uday Kumar Nath (a passports manager) and Eroni Tuberi were charged with “official corruption and abuse of office”.⁶ Nath had allegedly accepted a \$5000 bribe from Raj and, together with Tuberi, changed the status of the Kheras’ visitor permits. Tuberi had allegedly also received a “benefit” for his services.⁷
- The Indian nationals – Sanjay Khera, Manoj Khera, Kishore Khera (three brothers) and Prakash Garana⁸ – “were charged with conspiracy to make false declaration[s] in order to obtain a passport, giving false information to a public servant and giving false information to FICAC officers”.⁹

Murder charges

Fiji Times reporting indicates that the case was complicated in June 2007, when the Indian nationals implicated in the passport scam (Sanjay Khera, Manoj Khera, Kishore Khera and Prakash Garana) appeared in court charged with murder.¹⁰ Travel agent Alvin Raj was also charged as an accessory.¹¹ The victim was Kamlesh Nandha, a jeweller who had been found stabbed to death 20 months earlier.¹² The chief investigator for FICAC said that FICAC officers had “stumbled on fresh evidence” regarding the murder while investigating corruption at the Immigration Department.¹³ Three people had already been charged with Nandha’s murder earlier in the year – Jack Fraser, Imran Ali, and Samuel Singh.¹⁴ Available sources do not comment on the relationship between these men and Raj, the Khera brothers or Garana, nor do they discuss the motive for the murder or provide information regarding how the murder case related to the passport scam.

Prosecution confusion

In August 2007 the defendants in the murder case challenged FICAC in the High Court on constitutional grounds, claiming FICAC did not have jurisdiction to try criminal cases (*Khera & Ors vs FICAC*).¹⁵ The Court found in favour of the applicants and held that “the institution of criminal proceedings by parties other than the Director of Public Prosecutions was illegal”.¹⁶ The judge returned the case to the Magistrate’s Court.¹⁷ After

⁶ “Immigration officials, agent in court” 2007, *Fiji Times*, 1 June – Attachment 1.

⁷ “I’ll challenge FICAC: lawyer” 2007, *Fiji Times*, 7 August – Attachment 8.

⁸ “Passport accused in court today” 2007, *Fiji Times*, 31 May – Attachment 3.

⁹ “I’ll challenge FICAC: lawyer” 2007, *Fiji Times*, 7 August – Attachment 8.

¹⁰ “Three in court for murder” 2007, *Fiji Times*, 5 June – Attachment 2; “Khera brothers murder case dismissed” 2008, *Radio Fiji*, 19 February, <http://www.radiofiji.com.fj/print.php?id=8703#> - Accessed 9 February 2010 – Attachment 9.

¹¹ “Court throws out challenge of new Fiji anti-corruption body” 2007, *Radio New Zealand International*, 19 July – Attachment 10; “Court throws out FICAC appeal” 2008, *Fiji Times*, 25 January – Attachment 11.

¹² “Group implicated in passport scam appear in Court” 2007, *One National News* (Fiji TV), 22 June, <http://www.fijitv.com.fj/index.cfm?si=main.resources&cmd=forumview&cbegin=3350&uid=newsnational&cid=3348> - Accessed 8 February 2010 – Attachment 4; “Court throws out FICAC appeal” 2008, *Fiji Times*, 25 January – Attachment 11.

¹³ “Three in court for murder” 2007, *Fiji Times*, 5 June – Attachment 2.

¹⁴ “Group implicated in passport scam appear in Court” 2007, *One National News* (Fiji TV), 22 June, <http://www.fijitv.com.fj/index.cfm?si=main.resources&cmd=forumview&cbegin=3350&uid=newsnational&cid=3348> - Accessed 8 February 2010 – Attachment 4. See also “Murder trial files returned to State Prosecutor” 2007, *Radio Fiji*, 11 October, <http://www.radiofiji.com.fj/fiji2/fullstory.php?id=4591> - Accessed 9 February 2010 – Attachment 12 and “Scam suspects free to fly away” *Fiji Times*, 13 November – Attachment 6.

¹⁵ *Khera & Ors vs Fiji Independent Commission against Corruption* 2007, High Court of Fiji at Lautoka, www.fls.org.fj/doc/Lautoka-034-07.pdf - Accessed 9 February 2010 – Attachment 13.

¹⁶ Jalal, P & Madraiwiwi, J 2008, “Editorial Review”, *Pacific Human Rights Law Digest Volume 2*, pp ix-xxi – Attachment 14. See p xviii.

the ruling, FICAC did not attend court proceedings for either the murder or passport scam case, and in October 2007 passed both files to the Office of the Director for Public Prosecutions (DPP).¹⁸

In spite of the decision in *Khera & Ors vs FICAC*, magistrates hearing the passport scam case continued to expect FICAC to prosecute the case. In November 2007 a magistrate lifted the bail conditions of those charged in the passport scam and deferred the case to 19 February 2008 because FICAC failed to appear.¹⁹ A FICAC spokesperson argued that the case was “out of [our] hands”, but the same thing happened again on 19 February 2008, when another magistrate “discharged” all seven defendants because FICAC had not appeared in court.²⁰ FICAC repeated that it did not have carriage of the case.²¹

The murder case against the Indian nationals was dismissed under similar circumstances on 19 February 2008.²² Sources offer no explanations for the confusion surrounding which agency – FICAC or the DPP – was responsible for prosecuting the cases, nor do they comment on the apparent non-appearance of the DPP at court proceedings.

No further information was found on either the murder or passport scam case after 20 February 2008 and the current status of both cases is unknown.

2. Please provide information about other passport or immigration scams taking place in Fiji and involving Indian and other foreign nationals since 2000.

News reports indicate that there have been a number of passport or immigration scams involving Indian and other foreign nationals in Fiji in the period 2000-2010. This response focuses on incidents involving Indian nationals. Reports of incidents are listed below. These and a few additional sources indicate that Fiji’s “hub” location for onward travel and the ease of obtaining fraudulent Fijian passports make it an attractive transit country for irregular migrants hoping to reach Australia, New Zealand or Canada.

Reports of passport or immigration scams

The following reports were found of passport or immigration scams involving Indian or other foreign nationals in the period 2000-2010:

- Several news stories from January and February 2010 reported on “the possible use of Fiji” as a “hub” for people smuggling after a group of Indian nationals who had travelled through Fiji to New Zealand were found to be carrying fake

¹⁷ *Khera & Ors vs Fiji Independent Commission against Corruption* 2007, High Court of Fiji at Lautoka, www.flc.org.fj/doc/Lautoka-034-07.pdf - Accessed 9 February 2010 – Attachment 13; “Death file returns to lower court” 2007, *Fiji Times*, 19 August – Attachment 15.

¹⁸ “Khera brothers murder case dismissed” 2008, *Radio Fiji*, 19 February, <http://www.radiofiji.com.fj/print.php?id=8703#> - Accessed 9 February 2010 – Attachment 9; “Scam suspects free to fly away” *Fiji Times*, 13 November – Attachment 6; “Murder trial files returned to State Prosecutor” 2007, *Radio Fiji*, 11 October, <http://www.radiofiji.com.fj/fiji2/fullstory.php?id=4591> - Accessed 9 February 2010 – Attachment 15; “Inaccurate reporting” 2007, *Release from the Attorney General’s Chambers*, 15 November, <http://www.ag.gov.fj/default.aspx?Page=news&newsId=53> - Accessed 10 February 2010 – Attachment 16.

¹⁹ “Scam suspects free to fly away” *Fiji Times*, 13 November – Attachment 6.

²⁰ “Scam suspects free to fly away” *Fiji Times*, 13 November – Attachment 6; “Seven walk free from corruption charge” 2008, *Fiji Sun*, 20 February – Attachment 7.

²¹ “Seven walk free from corruption charge” 2008, *Fiji Sun*, 20 February – Attachment 7.

²² “Khera brothers murder case dismissed” 2008, *Radio Fiji*, 19 February, <http://www.radiofiji.com.fj/print.php?id=8703#> - Accessed 9 February 2010 – Attachment 9.

Canadian and British passports.²³ A police officer said investigators suspected “several [local] business people” were involved and the *Fiji Times* called for border control to be “taken seriously” in Fiji.²⁴

- Two *Fiji Times* “Court Briefs” from September and October 2009 noted a case in which three Fijians were alleged to have sold a Fijian passport to an Indian national after altering the passport photo.²⁵
- Multiple news stories from September 2009 reported on a human trafficking scheme in which 13 Indian nationals were “lured” to Fiji with the promise of “better jobs in return for thousands of dollars”.²⁶ The *Fiji Village* reported that border officials were under investigation in relation to the case for tampering with immigration records on the Indian nationals.²⁷
- A July 2008 *Fiji Times* story reported that up to 10 charges were to be served to an immigration officer who had allegedly “issued a Fijian passport to an Indian national.”²⁸
- Two *Fiji Times* articles from June 2008 reported the story of an Indian national who had attempted to travel to Japan on a fraudulent Fijian passport.²⁹ The man’s lawyer said he had paid \$9000 for the passport.³⁰
- A July 2006 *Radio New Zealand* story said police were investigating “how seven nationals from India arrived in Canada carrying Fiji passports with the names of indigenous Fijian villagers”. The Indian nationals had reportedly collected the passports in Fiji before travelling to Canada. The article cited a *Fiji Sun* report that alleged that “corrupt officers in the Immigration Department” were involved.³¹
- A December 2005 *Radio New Zealand* story reported that the Auditor-General of Fiji had recommended that four immigration officers be investigated for fraud and corruption. The officials’ alleged offences included “tampering with files, the disappearance of files and collusion in the issuing of work permits to 11 Chinese nationals in suspicious circumstances”.³²

²³ “Border control is important” 2010, *Fiji Times*, 3 February – Attachment 17; “Six Indian nationals in custody” 2010, *Radio Fiji*, 30 January, <http://www.radiofiji.com.fj/fullstory.php?id=25441> - Accessed 9 March 2010 – Attachment 18.

²⁴ CX239245: FIJI:Locals linked to people smuggling, *Fiji Times*, 2 February, 2010, <http://www.fijitimes.com.fj/story.aspx?id=138927> Added: 2/02/2010 – Attachment 19; “Border control is important” 2010, *Fiji Times*, 3 February – Attachment 17.

²⁵ “Court Briefs” 2009, *Fiji Times*, 30 September – Attachment 20; “Court briefs” 2009, *Fiji Times*, 15 October – Attachment 21.

²⁶ CX234178: FIJI:Fiji immigration officials suspected involved in trafficking, *Fiji Village*, 15 September, 2009, <http://www.bbcmonitoringonline.co.uk> Added: 29/09/2009 – Attachment 22; see also “Fiji Immigration, Customs to probe their own about Indian detainees” 2009, *Indian Weekender*, 13 September, source: Pacific Business Online/Pacnews/Fiji Live – Attachment 23; “Aliens caught living illegally in Fiji” 2009, *Fiji Times*, 13 September – Attachment 24; “Locals, immigration staff quizzed in visa scam” 2009, *Fiji Live*, 15 September – Attachment 25; Singh, M 2009, “Immigration alarm”, *Fiji Times*, 18 September – Attachment 26; “Traffickers target Fiji passports” 2009, *Fiji Times*, 1 December – Attachment 27.

²⁷ CX234178: FIJI:Fiji immigration officials suspected involved in trafficking, *Fiji Village*, 15 September, 2009, <http://www.bbcmonitoringonline.co.uk> Added: 29/09/2009 – Attachment 22.

²⁸ “Tadulala suspension necessary, says Ram” 2008, *Fiji Times*, 4 July – Attachment 28.

²⁹ “Man denies passport charge” 2008, *Fiji Times*, 24 June – Attachment 29; “Fake passport user pleads guilty” 2008, *Fiji Times*, 26 June – Attachment 30.

³⁰ “Fake passport user pleads guilty” 2008, *Fiji Times*, 26 June – Attachment 30.

³¹ “Fiji and Canadian police investigating passport scam” 2006, *Radio New Zealand International*, 20 July, <http://www.rnz.com/pages/news.php?op=read&id=25547> - Accessed 8 February 2010 – Attachment 31.

³² “Fiji auditor general recommends fraud charges against immigration officers” 2005, *Radio New Zealand International*, 2 December – Attachment 32.

- A November 2005 Australian Federal Police media release reported an “alleged people smuggling racket” in Fiji involving an Australian national and an Indian citizen. The Australian was alleged to have smuggled migrants using false travel documents and the Indian national had attempted to travel to Canada on false documents.³³
- A June 2003 article in the *New Zealand Herald* reported that an Indian couple from Fiji had been arrested in Auckland after “police executed a search warrant on their home in April and found 17 Fijian passports, six Fijian passport forms endorsed with thumbprints and 33 passport photographs”.³⁴
- An October 2002 *Radio New Zealand* story said that “evidence is emerging that forged Fiji passports are being sold to Chinese nationals at Nadi International airport”. A witness claimed that Fijian immigration officers were selling passports for up to \$9000.³⁵
- An August 2000 Indian news article reported on two Indian nationals awaiting deportation from Fiji after “refusing to give evidence in a suspected passport scam.” The men were among five Indian nationals who arrived in Fiji on Indian passports in October 1999 but produced Fijian passports on attempting to enter New Zealand soon after. Two Fijian men were accused of assisting the Indian nationals to obtain the false passports.³⁶

It is likely that additional instances of passport fraud have gone undiscovered or unreported.

Factors enhancing Fiji’s attractiveness as a transit destination for irregular migrants

The above reports and a few additional sources (including commentary by government officials and others) shed light on two reasons Fiji is an attractive transit point for irregular migrants attempting to reach third countries like Australia. First, Fiji is accessible and offers good opportunities for onward travel; second, fraudulent Fijian passports are both desirable and relatively easy to obtain – for a price. Government corruption has also played a part in passport fraud.

“Hub” location

The idea of Fiji as a gateway for irregular migrants to third countries such as Australia has appeared in several news reports. A December 2009 *Fiji Times* story on the human trafficking case, for example, referred to a statement by a former Director of Immigration that “Fiji was an ideal destination for human trafficking with its hub location and air access to major destinations”.³⁷ An August 2006 *Radio New Zealand* story quoted a law enforcement adviser as saying that while the “whole region” was “affected by travellers using fake passports”, “[t]here do seem to have been more instances within Fiji and that is due mainly to its central or hub [location] in regards to aircraft flying to Australia or New Zealand or Canada”.³⁸ Both Indian and Chinese nationals can obtain visitor visas on

³³ “Media release: Australian citizen arrested in Fiji for people smuggling offences” 2005, *Australian Federal Police*, 7 November – Attachment 33.

³⁴ “Sentence to deter cheats” 2003, *New Zealand Herald*, 24 June – Attachment 34.

³⁵ “Fresh allegations of forged passports sold in Fiji” 2002, *Radio New Zealand International*, 8 October – Attachment 35.

³⁶ “Fiji to deport 2 Indian Nationals” 2000, *India Abroad News Service*, 16 April,

<http://news.indiainfo.com/2000/08/16/16fiji.html> - Accessed 8 February 2010 – Attachment 36.

³⁷ “Traffickers target Fiji passports” 2009, *Fiji Times*, 1 December – Attachment 27.

³⁸ “Forum says entire region affected by fake passports” 2006, *Radio New Zealand International*, 16 August – Attachment 37.

arrival in Fiji, and the law enforcement adviser's comment that travellers "perceive this area as easy to enter" is supported by the statement of a witness in the 2002 passport scam involving Chinese nationals.³⁹ The witness said that Chinese citizens chose to transit Fiji to third destinations, obtaining Fijian passports on the way, because "security measures are lax and Fiji passports draw less attention" than Chinese documents.⁴⁰

Fijian passports

The witness's comment cited above underlines the desirability of Fijian passports for some foreign nationals, as does 2007 advice from then-head of Fiji Immigration Viliame Naupoto that "[a] Fiji passport fetches up to \$20,000" on the black market.⁴¹ Two reports listed in the previous section said foreign nationals had allegedly paid \$9000 for Fiji passports.⁴² Passport fraud is not only lucrative in Fiji – sources indicate it is not difficult to forge Fijian travel documents or obtain them through other irregular means. In November 2009 a former head of Fiji Immigration said Fijian passports were among "the easiest...in the world to forge"; other sources indicate that valid Fiji passports can be altered for illegal purposes, for example through the replacement of photographs.⁴³ It is also possible to obtain Fiji passports through fraudulent application processes: Naupoto said in an interview in July 2007 that one Indian national was wrongly issued with a passport after he brought in "someone else's birth certificate".⁴⁴

Corruption

Corruption has made it easier for foreign nationals in Fiji to obtain fake Fijian travel documents and travel on to third countries. Many of the news stories noted in the previous section reported allegations that border control and immigration officers were involved in instances of passport and immigration fraud.⁴⁵ In late 2009, the Immigration Department reportedly "noted an increase in the number of crimes involving its officers in the past five years".⁴⁶ The Director said Immigration had a "zero-tolerance policy on immigration crimes", but the department's record leaves room for scepticism about its commitment to stamping out corruption.⁴⁷ The 2005 *Radio New Zealand* story on corrupt immigration

³⁹ "Do I need a visa?" 2010, *Website of the High Commission of Fiji in Australia*, http://www.fijihighcom.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=40&Itemid=45 - Accessed 10 March 2010 – Attachment 38; "Forum says entire region affected by fake passports" 2006, *Radio New Zealand International*, 16 August – Attachment 37; "Fresh allegations of forged passports sold in Fiji" 2002, *Radio New Zealand International*, 8 October – Attachment 35.

⁴⁰ "Fresh allegations of forged passports sold in Fiji" 2002, *Radio New Zealand International*, 8 October – Attachment 35.

⁴¹ "Making the watch list" 2007, *Fiji Times*, 21 July – Attachment 38.

⁴² "Fake passport user pleads guilty" 2008, *Fiji Times*, 26 June – Attachment 30; "Fresh allegations of forged passports sold in Fiji" 2002, *Radio New Zealand International*, 8 October – Attachment 35.

⁴³ "Human traffickers forging Fiji passports: Naupoto" 2009, *Fiji Live*, 30 November – Attachment 39; "Traffickers target Fiji passports" 2009, *Fiji Times*, 1 December – Attachment 27; "Court Briefs" 2009, *Fiji Times*, 30 September – Attachment 29; "Court briefs" 2009, *Fiji Times*, 15 October – Attachment 30.

⁴⁴ "Making the watch list" 2007, *Fiji Times*, 21 July – Attachment 38.

⁴⁵ For example, CX234178: FIJ:Fiji immigration officials suspected involved in trafficking, Fiji Village, 15 September, 2009, <http://www.bbcmonitoringonline.co.uk> Added: 29/09/2009 – Attachment 22; see also "Fiji Immigration, Customs to probe their own about Indian detainees" 2009, *Indian Weekender*, 13 September, source: Pacific Business Online/Pacnews/Fiji Live – Attachment 23; "Aliens caught living illegally in Fiji" 2009, *Fiji Times*, 13 September – Attachment 24; "Locals, immigration staff quizzed in visa scam" 2009, *Fiji Live*, 15 September – Attachment 25; "Fiji auditor general recommends fraud charges against immigration officers" 2005, *Radio New Zealand International*, 2 December – Attachment 32; "Fresh allegations of forged passports sold in Fiji" 2002, *Radio New Zealand International*, 8 October – Attachment 35; "Tadulala suspension necessary, says Ram" 2008, *Fiji Times*, 4 July – Attachment 28.

⁴⁶ Singh, M 2009, "Immigration alarm", *Fiji Times*, 18 September – Attachment 26.

⁴⁷ Singh, M 2009, "Immigration alarm", *Fiji Times*, 18 September – Attachment 26.

officers, for example, named one as Eroni Tuberi – who was still around to be charged in the 2007 passport scam case discussed in question one of this response.⁴⁸

Attachments

1. “Immigration officials, agent in court” 2007, *Fiji Times*, 1 June.
2. “Three in court for murder” 2007, *Fiji Times*, 5 June.
3. “Passport accused in court today” 2007, *Fiji Times*, 31 May.
4. “Group implicated in passport scam appear in Court” 2007, One National News (Fiji TV), 22 June,
<http://www.fijitv.com.fj/index.cfm?si=main.resources&cmd=forumview&cbegin=3350&uid=newsnational&cid=3348> - Accessed 8 February 2010.
5. “Passport scam case deferred to next year” 2007, *One National News* (Fiji TV), 12 November,
<http://www.fijitv.com.fj/index.cfm?si=main.resources&cmd=forumview&cbegin=-6534&uid=newsnational&cid=6539> - Accessed 10 February 2010.
6. “Scam suspects free to fly away” *Fiji Times*, 13 November.
7. “Seven walk free from corruption charge” 2008, *Fiji Sun*, 20 February.
8. “I’ll challenge FICAC: lawyer” 2007, *Fiji Times*, 7 August.
9. “Khera brothers murder case dismissed” 2008, *Radio Fiji*, 19 February,
<http://www.radiofiji.com.fj/print.php?id=8703#> - Accessed 9 February 2010.
10. “Court throws out challenge of new Fiji anti-corruption body” 2007, *Radio New Zealand International*, 19 July.
11. “Court throws out FICAC appeal” 2008, *Fiji Times*, 25 January.
12. “Murder trial files returned to State Prosecutor” 2007, *Radio Fiji*, 11 October,
<http://www.radiofiji.com.fj/fiji2/fullstory.php?id=4591> - Accessed 9 February 2010.
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14. Jalal, P & Madraiwiwi, J 2008, “Editorial Review”, *Pacific Human Rights Law Digest Volume 2*, pp ix-xxi.
15. “Death file returns to lower court” 2007, *Fiji Times*, 19 August.
16. “Inaccurate reporting” 2007, *Release from the Attorney General’s Chambers*, 15 November, <http://www.ag.gov.fj/default.aspx?Page=news&newsId=53> - Accessed 10 February 2010.
17. “Border control is important” 2010, *Fiji Times*, 3 February.

⁴⁸ “Fiji auditor general recommends fraud charges against immigration officers” 2005, *Radio New Zealand International*, 2 December – Attachment 32.

18. "Six Indian nationals in custody" 2010, *Radio Fiji*, 30 January, <http://www.radiofiji.com.fj/fullstory.php?id=25441> - Accessed 9 March 2010.
19. CX239245: FIJI:Locals linked to people smuggling, *Fiji Times*, 2 February, 2010, <http://www.fijitimes.com.fj/story.aspx?id=138927> Added: 2/02/2010.
20. "Court Briefs" 2009, *Fiji Times*, 30 September.
21. "Court briefs" 2009, *Fiji Times*, 15 October.
22. CX234178: FIJI: Fiji immigration officials suspected involved in trafficking, Fiji Village, 15 September, 2009, <http://www.bbcmonitoringonline.co.uk> Added: 29/09/2009.
23. "Fiji Immigration, Customs to probe their own about Indian detainees" 2009, *Indian Weekender*, 13 September, source: Pacific Business Online/Pacnews/Fiji Live.
24. "Aliens caught living illegally in Fiji" 2009, *Fiji Times*, 13 September.
25. "Locals, immigration staff quizzed in visa scam" 2009, *Fiji Live*, 15 September.
26. Singh, M 2009, "Immigration alarm", *Fiji Times*, 18 September.
27. "Traffickers target Fiji passports" 2009, *Fiji Times*, 1 December.
28. "Tadulala suspension necessary, says Ram" 2008, *Fiji Times*, 4 July.
29. "Man denies passport charge" 2008, *Fiji Times*, 24 June.
30. "Fake passport user pleads guilty" 2008, *Fiji Times*, 26 June.
31. "Fiji and Canadian police investigating passport scam" 2006, *Radio New Zealand International*, 20 July, <http://www.rnzi.com/pages/news.php?op=read&id=25547> - Accessed 8 February 2010.
32. "Fiji auditor general recommends fraud charges against immigration officers" 2005, *Radio New Zealand International*, 2 December.
33. "Media release: Australian citizen arrested in Fiji for people smuggling offences" 2005, *Australian Federal Police*, 7 November.
34. "Sentence to deter cheats" 2003, *New Zealand Herald*, 24 June.
35. "Fresh allegations of forged passports sold in Fiji" 2002, *Radio New Zealand International*, 8 October.
36. "Fiji to deport 2 Indian Nationals" 2000, *India Abroad News Service*, 16 April, <http://news.indiainfo.com/2000/08/16/16fiji.html> - Accessed 8 February 2010.
37. "Forum says entire region affected by fake passports" 2006, *Radio New Zealand International*, 16 August.
38. "Do I need a visa?" 2010, *Website of the High Commission of Fiji in Australia*, http://www.fijihighcom.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=40&Itemid=45 - Accessed 10 March 2010.

39. “Human traffickers forging Fiji passports: Naupoto” 2009, *Fiji Live*, 30 November.