No. 25022/111/2017-F.I Government of India Ministry of Home Affairs (Foreigners Division)

Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, India Gate, New Delhi, Dated the 21st December, 2017

Subject: Advisory on fake Indian e-Visa Portals.

This Ministry is receiving multiple complaints from people who have either been cheated or who have compromised their personal information due to use of fake e-Visa portals. The menace of these fake ETA websites has revealed in duping of some foreign tourists/visitors. This nuisance requires joint efforts to curb it.

- 2. In a number of cases, the applicants were not able to distinguish between the authentic e-Visa portal and the fake ones and ended up becoming a victim of financial fraud and/or compromised their personal data in cases where they were alerted before making any payments.
- 3. In view of this, all concerned stakeholders may kindly note that Government of India does not appoint any authorised agents to apply for e-Visa on behalf of any Applicant. General public may also be advised not to fall prey to such fake e-Visa portals claiming to provide Express e-Visa services by charging a hefty amount for the same. The official website of Government of India for e-Visa and related visa services is www.indianvisaonline.gov.in.

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To,

- 1. The Secretary, Ministry of Tourism with a request to kindly sensitise all the registered Tour Operators and put an advisory on their websites for similar action.
- 2. The Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs with a request to kindly publicise the advisory among all the Indian Missions/Posts abroad.

3. Bureau of Immigration (for information and necessary action).

Copy to:-

I.T. Cell, M.H.A. – with a request to place the advisory on the M.H.A.'s website.