



| December 31, 2025

# The story of OnlineOTP

A few months ago I faced an annoying problem. I wanted to redeem my Cathay Pacific Miles but I was unable to log into my account. The SMS OTP never arrived.

My account was tied to my Sri Lankan number, which I've had for many years, yet I never received their OTP.

After wasting an inordinate amount of time, first with their chat support, then with the call support, I was told this was a "known problem".

When I browsed through /r/SriLanka I immediately noticed this was a recurring problem that has gone back for more than a year on a number of services.

The screenshot shows a forum thread on the subreddit r/SriLanka. The search bar at the top has 'srilanka' and 'otp' entered. There are four visible posts:

- OTP codes not received for Twitch verification** (posted 4 days ago, 1 vote, 4 comments)
- Has anyone encountered this new(?) Google verification where we SEND an OTP?** (posted 3 days ago, 3 votes, 10 comments)
- Excessive Email phishing and fake OTPs.** (posted 10 days ago, 7 votes, 1 comment)
- Ongoing OTP issue in sri lanka** (posted 10 days ago, 2 votes, 4 comments)
- OTP issue in Sri Lanka for google** (posted 1 day ago, 6 votes, 10 comments)
- Is there a problem with getting the OTP from Hutch?** (posted 7 days ago, 1 vote, 4 comments)

I really wanted to scratch this itch. I knew from past experience that jumping to building was not the best solution, but at the same time I wanted to ride the momentum of this idea.

Two weeks later I had an MVP ready to go.

The screenshot shows the OnlineOTP beta landing page. The header includes the OnlineOTP logo, a 'Dashboard' link, and a 'Sign Out' button. A 'BIETA' badge is visible. The main heading is 'Receive US Verification Codes Anywhere in the World'. Below it is the subtext 'Never miss an OTP again'. A note says 'Travelling or living abroad? Get a dedicated US phone number to receive SMS verification codes and OTPs instantly via email, no matter where you are.' Two buttons are present: 'Browse Available Numbers →' and 'Apply for Beta Access →'. At the bottom, there's a note about beta code usage and three icons: 'Secure Payment', 'Instant Delivery', and 'No Setup Required'.

► See the rest of the page

The screenshot shows the OnlineOTP dashboard under the user 'jameel263'. The top bar shows 'Good afternoon, Jameel263' and the user's email 'jameel263@gmail.com'. The left sidebar has links for 'Home', 'MY NUMBERS' (with 1 active number), '+ Add Number', and 'Settings'. The main area is titled 'Recent Messages' and lists two messages:

- From: +1 (408) 555-1234** (posted Dec 06, 2025)  
Your Apple Account code is 833495. Do not share it with anyone.
- From: +91 9876543210** (posted Nov 28, 2025)  
Another OTP is 333905