

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:546  
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2002  
TRIBUNALS FOR ECONOMIC OFFENCES  
A. VENKATESH NAIK;SHYAMA SINGH

**Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the economic offences are not seriously considered which is posing a great threat to the economy of the country;
- (b) if so, the number of Economic offence cases which have come to the notice of the Government alongwith the amount involved therein during the last three years with action taken to recover them;
- (c) whether the Government are actively considering to enforce the laws and also set up specialised tribunals to effectively deal with economic offences;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other concrete steps taken by the Government to deal with economic offences in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

(a),(b),(c),(d) & (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a),(b),(c),(d) and (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.5 (POSITION NO.6) FOR ANSWER ON 3RD MAY, 2002.

- (a) Government takes serious note of economic offences.
- (b) The details of cases during the last three years are given below:

(Rs. crore)

Central Excise	No. of cases booked	Amount involved
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17495	10730	
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Customs	No. of seizures	Value of seizure
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118329	3839	
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Income Tax	No. of warrants executed	Value of assets seized
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15376	1221	
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FERA+ cases	No. of SCNs issued	Amount involved
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8014	3941	
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FEMA++ cases	No. of SCNs issued	Amount involved
327	134	

Frauds reported by Public Sectors Banks	No. of frauds	Amount involved
5552	1556	

(+ FERA - Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973)

(++ FEMA - Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999)

( SCN - Show Cause Notice)

Steps taken to recover the amount involved include charging of interest, levy of penalty, attachment and sale of moveable and immovable properties, taking certificate action to recover penalties as arrears of land revenues and filling petitions for urgent hearings in respect of cases where stay orders against recovery have been passed by appellate bodies.

(c) & (d): The provisions of the laws are enforced vigourously. Tribunals namely Income Tax Appellate Tribunal, Appellate Tribunal for Forfeited Property and Customs, Excise & Gold (Control) Appellate Tribunal are already existing.

(e) Necessary legislative, fiscal and administrative measures are continuously taken to tackle economic offences. The measures taken include rationalisation of tariff structure, plugging leakage of revenue through anti-smuggling and anti-evasion measures, effective gathering of intelligence, simplification of tax collection procedures to improve tax compliance, undertaking extensive computerization of operations, strengthening the internal control machinery of the banks and reviewing fraud cases on a continuing basis.