

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6885
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2003
POPPY CULTIVATION
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3910 dated December 13, 2002 regarding Poppy Cultivation and state :

(a) The number of persons arrested during the last two years in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and West Bengal where the illicit cultivation of opium has been destroyed during the last one year in these States; and

(b) The concrete steps have been taken in consultation with these States to check the illicit cultivation of opium?

Answer

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

Since no information was available on the said date, an assurance was given, which reads as under:

(a)&(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on Table of the House.

The aforesaid Answer was fulfilled, furnishing the following information:

(a) Seven persons were arrested in West Bengal and one in Himachal Pradesh, while no arrest was made in Arunachal Pradesh for illicit opium cultivation during the last two years.

(b) Instructions have been issued to Central Bureau of Narcotics, Narcotics Control Bureau and some State Governments to initiate steps for the destruction of illicit cultivation of opium and create awareness about the dangers of illicit cultivation.

The Government of Arunachal Pradesh have intensified their vigil.

Awareness programmes have also been undertaken by some States to educate the villagers and students about the menace of drug abuse and legal consequences by organising meetings /seminars/ lectures/ rallies etc.