GOVERNMENT OF INDIA FINANCE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3570 ANSWERED ON:15.12.2006 AGENCIES ON NARCOTICS CONTROL Fanthome Shri Francis

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has more than one agencies on Narcotics control?
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) the manner in which these agencies are dealing with International Narco-terrorism
- (d) whether any difficulties are being faced by them;
- (e) if so, whether the government proposes to amalgamate them into a single agency; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor.

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM)

- (a) Yes, sir.
- (b) The Goernment has followed a multi-agency approach to narcotics control. The Statement of Objects and Reason of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985
- (NDPS Act) lists several deficiencies of the earlier legislations because of which the NDPS Act was enacted. One of the deficiencies listed is that many central enforcement agencies were not invested under the earlier laws with the power of enforcement. Section 41(2) and 42 of the NDPS Act authorise the central government and state governments to empower officers of any of the departments of their respective governments with the powers of search, seizure and arrest. Officers of the Customs, Central Excise, Directorate General of Revenue Intelligence, Central Bureau of Investigation, Narcotics Control Bureau and Central Bureau of Narcotics have been empowered by the Central Government keeping in view the Statement of Objects and Reason of the NDPS Act, 1985.
- (c) All the agencies empowered under the NDPS Act, 1985 seize drugs and arrest offenders. Information pertaining to seizure and arrests by agencies under the central and all state governments are reported to the Narcotics Control Bureau
- (NCB) which compiles the information. NCB also shares intelligence with its counterparts in other countries. Cases having international remifications are also taken up by the CBI through interpol.
- (d) No.(e) and (f) Does not arise in view of (d).