

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4417  
ANSWERED ON:20.08.2010  
`CARRYING CURRENCY ABROAD`  
Bhagora Shri Tarachand;Jagannath Dr. M.

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

- (a) the maximum amount of rupee as well as foreign currency an Indian national is allowed by law to carry abroad;
- (b) whether cases of violation or attempts to violate provisions of such law have come up before the authorities;
- (c) if so, the details thereof for each of the last three years and the current year, and
- (d) the details of action taken in such cases?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a): In terms of Foreign Exchange Management (Export and Import of Currency) Regulations, 2000, as amended from time to time, any person resident in India, save as otherwise provided in these regulations, may take outside India (Other than to Nepal and Bhutan) currency notes of Government of India and RBI notes upto an amount not exceeding Rs. 7,500/ per person. Further, under the extant Foreign Exchange Management (Current Account Transaction) Rules, 2000 the amount of foreign exchange which a traveller can carry for private visits abroad is USD 10,000 or its equivalent per financial year while for business visit the amount is USD 25,000 per visit per financial year. Further, a traveller can carry up to USD 1,00,000 per year for the purpose of employment, emigration, maintenance of close relatives abroad, medical treatment, studies abroad. These limits are indicative and request for higher amount is considered by the Reserve Bank.

(b) to (d): Yes, Sir. There are 15 cases registered for violations of provisions of Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999. The year-wise details are as under:-

Year    No. of cases registered

2007-08	2
2008-09	7
2009-10	2
2010-11	4

Further, there are cases where the persons found involved carrying Indian and Foreign currency from India to abroad violating provisions of law are arrested and prosecuted under the Customs Act, 1962. In appropriate cases, actions under COFEPOSA is taken against major offenders. The details are as under:-

**Indian Currency**

Year    No. of Cases    Value of seized Goods (in lakhs)    No. of persons arrested

2007-08	127	Rs. 72.833	8
2008-09	216	Rs. 271.78	9
2009-10	1	Rs. 106.39	4

Foreign Currency

Year	No. of Cases	Value of seized Goods (in lakhs)	No. of persons arrested
2007-08	71	Rs. 367.67	13
2008-09	0	Rs. 0	0
2009-10	57	Rs. 146.699	7