

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3280

ANSWERED ON:28.07.2009

ILLEGAL CULTIVATION OF OPIUM

Deora Shri Milind Murli;Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar;Ray Shri Rudramadhab

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the instances of illegal cultivation of opium and funding of Maoist insurgency from the sale proceeds of such opium been reported in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to curb such activities in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) & (b): As per the information available the illicit opium cultivation has been destroyed in Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttrakhand, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh. However, information pertaining to funding of Maoist insurgency from such sale proceed is not available and the concerned States have been requested to provide the relevant information in case any such instance has come to their notice.

(c): The Government has taken number of steps to curb illegal production of opium poppy in the country. The details are attached as Annexure-I

Annexure-I

Annexure to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3280 for answer on 28.7.2009

1. Carrying out of ground survey to detect illicit cultivation of opium poppy.
2. Satellite survey conducted by Advanced Data processing Research Institute (ADRIN), Secunderabad, to detect illicit cultivation of opium in affected states.
3. Destruction of illicit opium poppy and prosecution of the offenders.
4. Improved coordination with state drug law enforcement agencies including meeting with nodal officers and visits to states.
5. Conducting training programmes for law enforcement official for upgrading their skills.
6. Awareness campaigns to educate people regarding the punitive action for cultivation of illicit opium.

7. Implementing a scheme of monetary rewards for information leading to destruction of opium cultivation.

8. Financial assistance being provided to States for strengthening their narcotic units.

9. Creation of Anti Narcotics Task Force in States.