

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1837
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2009
ILLEGAL PRODUCTION OF DRUGS
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Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India is one of the major illicit opium/poppy/drug producing and transit countries of the world;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;and
- (c) the counter-narcotic measures and efforts taken by the Government to curb illegal production of drugs?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) No, sir. The World Drug Report, 2009 published by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime highlights only Afghanistan, Myanmar and Lao PDR as the major illicit opium cultivating countries. However, the US Government has its own method of determining major illicit drug producing and/or drug transit countries. It has listed 20 countries including India in this category.

(c) The Government has taken a number of steps to curb illegal production of opium poppy in the country. These include:-

- (i) Carrying out of satellite/ ground survey to detect illicit cultivation of opium poppy;
- (ii) Destruction of illicit opium poppy and prosecution of the offenders.
- (iii) Coordination between various drug law enforcement agencies to enhance the impact of drug law enforcement.
- (iv) Training law enforcement officials to upgrade their skills to combat drug trafficking.
- (v) A scheme of monetary rewards to informers and officers for information leading to seizures of narcotics drugs.
- (vi) Financial assistance being provided to eligible States for strengthening their anti-narcotic units.