

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:216

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2011

SMUGGLING OF GOODS

Bajwa Shri Partap Singh;Mishra Shri Mahabal

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are reports of smuggling of drugs, arms and fake currency notes into the country including Punjab and the National Capital Territory of Delhi;
- (b) if so, the details of such cases reported, persons arrested and contraband items seized during each of the last three years and the current year, item-wise;
- (c) whether the Government is aware of any nexus between the terrorists and the smugglers in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the preventive measures taken/being taken by the Government to curb such activities?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 216 FOR 16.08.2011

(a): Yes, Madam. Reports received and seizures made by various agencies indicate smuggling of drugs, arms and fake currency notes into the country.

(b):

(i) As informed by Narcotics Control Bureau the quantity of drugs seized; cases registered and persons arrested during the last 3 years is as below :—

Year	Total Quantity of drugs seized (in Kgs.)	Cases registered	Persons arrested
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2008	110403	18491	20210
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2009	215104	17826	19434
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2010	180046	14979	16744
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2011	63564	4699	5696
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(Upto June)

(ii) The specific data on smuggling of arms and fake currency notes are not centrally maintained. According to NCRB reports the arms

recovered are as below :

Year	Total No. of Arms recovered
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2008	11537
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2009	4725
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2010	8076
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As per NCRB records, the figures of Counterfeit currency recovered/ seized in India in the last 3 years and upto June, 2011 are as below :—

Year	Counterfeit Currency recovered/seized
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2008	Rs. 25.88 crore
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2009	Rs. 23.01 crore
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2010	Rs. 26.94 crore
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Upto June 2011	Rs. 11.18 crore
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(iii) The number of cases registered and persons arrested as per NCRB records for the years 2008 and 2009 under the Arms Act 1959, and under counterfeiting is as below. The figures of the year 2010 have not been compiled by NCRB.

Year	Arms Act	Counterfeiting
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Cases registered	Persons arrested	Cases Registered	Persons arrested
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2008	77016	81144	2991	2676
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2009	80109	84873	2935	3007
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(c) & (d): Government is aware of the nexus between terrorists and organized crime.

(e): The preventive measures taken/being taken by the Government to curb such activities include:—

- (i) Intensive preventive and interdiction efforts along known drug smuggling routes.
- (ii) Strict surveillance and enforcement at import and export points.
- (iii) Improved coordination between the various drug law enforcement agencies including border guarding forces in order to impart greater cohesion to interdiction.
- (iv) Strengthening of the intelligence apparatus to improve the collection, analysis and dissemination of operational intelligence.
- (v) Implementing a scheme of monetary rewards for information leading to seizures of Narcotics Drugs to informers and enforcement officers.
- (vi) Border fencing with concertina wires, deployment of infrared sensors/thermal imaging devices (including night vision devices), underground sensors and trip wire mechanism to activate fence lights.
- (vii) Vide two notifications dated 11.11.2010, officers of the rank of Assistant Commandant and above and subordinate officers of the rank of Sub-Inspector and above have been empowered to demand production of arms licence, search for illegal arms and seize/detain them if found under Section 19, 22, 23 and 24 of the Arms Act, 1959 in all the areas where they are deployed or called upon to do their duty.
- (viii) To prevent fake currency influx, a Terror Funding and Fake Currency Cell (TFCC) has been established under National Investigating Agency to collect intelligence in regard to financing of terrorism and counterfeit currency and to conduct investigation of Fake Indian Currency Notes outsourced from other countries having linkage with Terrorist Organizations.
- (ix) A Nodal Group under the Ministry of Home Affairs has been constituted to coordinate with various agencies involved in combating menace of fake Indian Currency Notes.
- (x) Government has also established a FICN Coordination Centre (F-Coord), consisting of representatives of Central and State Intelligence and prosecution organizations.
- (xi) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has also initiated several measures. These measures include augmenting security features on the bank notes so as to render counterfeiting difficult.