

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3865  
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2011  
SEIZURE OF SANDALWOOD  
Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre;Kodikunnil Shri Suresh

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

- (a) whether the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence seized a sizeable quantity of sandalwood in some States including Delhi;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years and the current year and the punitive action taken or being taken thereon; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to protect precious forest wealth of the country from being smuggled to foreign countries?

**Answer**

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

(a) Sirs, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence has seized some quantity of sandalwood under Customs Act, 1962 in two separate cases in Tamilnadu. However, there is no seizure of sandalwood effected in Delhi.

(b) The details of seizure of sandalwood effected by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence for the last three years and the current year and punitive action taken is as under:

(Rs.in crores)

Year	No.of Cases	Qty of seized Sandalwood (in M.T.)	Value of seized sandal Wood arrested	No.of person arrested
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2008-2009	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
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2009-2010	01	1.186	0.59	01
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2010-2011	01	0.400	0.40	Nil
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2011-2012	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
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(up to Nov ,H)

(c) All the field formations including DRI have been sensitized to prevent the smuggling of all Rare/Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna from Indian precious Forest Wealth. Constant surveillance is kept on Seaports, Airports and Land Customs Stations.