GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:825 ANSWERED ON:24.11.2009 FAKE CURRENCY Jindal Shri Naveen;Namdhari Shri Inder Singh;Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar;Tomar Shri Narendra Singh

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a): the details of fake currencies seized from banks, smugglers and from the various borders during each of the last three years and the current year, border-wise;

(b): the details of the investigations made and conviction rate achieved in such cases;

(c): whether the Government has been able to track the sources and channels through which the fake currencies enter into the country; and

(d): if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

(a): As per available information, cases of seizure and recovery of Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICNs) from smugglers and banks respectively, have come to the notice of the Government. The details of quantum of FICNs smuggled into the country, border-wise, are not centrally maintained.

(b): 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Constitution of India. Accordingly, investigations in most of the cases of Counterfeit Currency are initiated by the State Police. However, as per available information some cases of FICNs are also investigated by Central Bureau of Investigation. A number of these cases are at various stages of trial. The National Investigation Agency have also investigated one case of FICN and charge sheet has been filed in the case.

(c): Available inputs indicate that high quality Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICNs) are printed in a neighbouring country and pushed into India through neighbouring countries.

(d): To address the multi-dimensional aspects of the FICN menace, several agencies such as the RBI, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Intelligence Agencies of the Centre, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), etc. are working in tandem to thwart the nefarious activity related to FICNs. The activities of these agencies are also periodically reviewed in a nodal group set up for this purpose. In this context, at the functional level, the CBI has been declared as the nodal agency for coordination with the States; the Directorate General of Revenue Intelligence has been nominated as the Lead Intelligence Agency for this purpose. Apart from the above, the State Governments have been asked to set up dedicated and well-equipped Cell under senior level supervision to comprehensively monitor and deal with organized crimes including FICN, and also specifically designate a nodal officer to coordinate activities relating to FICNs. The States have also been asked to set up a Committee headed by the DGP of the State with GM/DGM of RBI, Senior Officers of SIB, Intelligence Branch of State Police, CID of State Police, etc. as members. Further, the offences under IPC, relating to counterfeit currency have been included in the schedule to the National Investigation Agency Act, thereby empowering the National Investigation Agency to investigate and prosecute such offences.

Further, the issue has also been taken up consistently with the neighbouring countries in the bilateral fora .