

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1625
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2013
SEIZURE OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE
Rane Dr. Nilesh Narayan

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the value of foreign exchange seized by customs department from the travelers at each international airport during each of the last two years and the current year;
- (b) the names of countries to which these passengers belong; and
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI J.D.SEELAM)

- (a) The details of value of foreign exchange seized by customs department from the travelers at international airports are as under:-

Year	Value of seized foreign exchange (Rs.in crores)
2011-2012	3.69
2012-2013	2.91
2013-2014	1.38

(upto July,13)

- (b) The names of the countries to which these passengers belong include- Portugal, USA, Uganda, Syria, Senegal, Congo, Srilanka, Thailand, Yemen, Ghana, Singapore, Nigeria, U.K., Angola, Iran, Sudan, Maldives, China and India, etc.

- (c) Customs field formations at all international airports are on alert and vigilant to prevent smuggling including foreign exchange. The passengers/flights originating from sensitive countries are being profiled for better surveillance. The seized foreign currency is confiscated, fine and penalty is imposed and prosecutions are launched as per provision of Customs Act and Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA).