

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1721

ANSWERED ON:22.07.2014

FAKE CURRENCY CASES

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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of fake Indian currency notes (FICN) confiscated in the country and the number of persons arrested during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that fake currency notes are being pumped into the country from neighbouring countries;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether any awareness campaign has been undertaken/proposed to be undertaken to confiscate fake currency notes and nab the culprits; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof including the other measures taken to check inflow and circulation of FICN in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJU)

(a): As per the statistics maintained by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the state/UT-wise details of Fake Indian Currency notes (FICN) recovered and seized in the country during the last three years 2011, 2012, 2013 and the current year (upto June 30, 2014) are as per annexure A, B , C and D respectively. As per the statistics available with NCRB the state/UT-wise number of persons arrested for counterfeiting of Indian currency notes and coins during the last three years 2011, 2012, 2013 is at Annexure-E.

(b) to (e): Yes, Madam. As per available inputs received from Central Intelligence and Investigating Agencies, Fake Indian Currency Notes are being pumped into the country from neighbouring countries by creating a self-sustaining criminal network in the South and South East Asian Region via Nepal, Bangladesh, Thailand, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and UAE, in addition to the new route of China via Nepal.

To address the multi-dimensional aspects of the FICN menace, several agencies such as the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Home Affairs,

Security and intelligence agencies of the Centre and State and CBI are working in tandem to thwart the illegal activities related to FICNs.

The legal regime has been further strengthened by way of recent amendments in the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 wherein the damage to the monetary stability of India by way of production or smuggling or circulation of High Quality Fake Indian Paper Currency, coin or any other material has been declared as 'terrorist act'.

Further, one special FICN Coordination Centre (FCORD) has been formed in MHA to share the intelligence/ information amongst the different security agencies of State/Centre to counter the menace of circulation of counterfeit currency notes. This group also coordinates all the matters relating to intelligence collection and collation in India and abroad for the member agencies.

CBI and NIA are the central agencies for investigation of FICN cases. A Terror Funding & Fake Currency Cell is functioning in NIA to focus on terror funding & fake currency cases. Further, a simplified mechanism for reporting and filing of FIR in FICN cases has been put in place. The Ministry of Home Affairs has issued advisories to the law enforcement agencies of the states, Central Armed Police Forces, Ministry of Civil Aviation and the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security to augment the security arrangements and to adopt effective counter measures against the menace of FICN.

The security features in the high value currency notes are being constantly upgraded by the Ministry of Finance. RBI has also strengthened the mechanism for detection of counterfeit notes by the banks. RBI has undertaken awareness campaigns by running educational programmes for the public and by organizing training programmes for the employees of banks and other organizations handling large amounts of cash.

The Government has also constantly raised the issue in international bilateral and multilateral fora dealing with such issues.