

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1725

ANSWERED ON:22.07.2014

SMUGGLING OF DRUGS

Chavan Shri Ashok Shankarrao; Mann Shri Bhagwant

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases of smuggling of drugs within the country and across the borders and the quantum of drugs seized during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT and border-wise;
- (b) the number of persons arrested including foreigners during the said period, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the names of the cities in the country where smuggling of drugs more rampant during the said period;
- (d) whether the involvement of any agencies of neighbouring countries have also been reported;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (f) the measures taken by the Government to check smuggling of drugs within and across the borders of the country?

Answer

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

- (a): The number of cases of smuggling of drugs within the country and across the borders and the quantum of drugs seized during the years 2011, 2012, 2013 & 2014 (Upto May) State/UT-wise as furnished by the Narcotics Control Bureau is placed at Annexure-'A'.
- (b): The number of persons arrested including foreigners State/UT-wise during 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 (Upto May) as furnished by the Narcotics Control Bureau is placed at Annexure 'B'.
- (c): Narcotics Control Bureau does not maintain city wise details. However as per the data received from the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Guwahati, Lucknow, Patna, Mumbai, Delhi, Ludhiana & Berhampur are some of the Indian Cities where the seizures of drugs have taken place in large quantities.
- (d): No such cases have been reported by any Drug Law Enforcement Agency.
- (e): Does not arise.
- (f): The measures taken by the government to check smuggling of drugs within and across the border of the country are as follows:
 - (a) Coordination and sharing of intelligence by Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) with various Central law enforcement agencies like Border Security Force (BSF), Assam Rifles, Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Central Excise and Customs and state agencies like Police and State Excise.
 - (b) Sharing of real time information and coordination operation with Nodal agencies of neighbouring countries.
 - (c) Monetary rewards for information leading to seizures of Narcotic drugs/destruction of illicit crops to informers and officers are being provided.
 - (d) Prepare and execute action plan for destruction of illicit poppy and cannabis cultivation in coordination with State agencies. NCB also provides satellite images of areas under illegal cultivation of cannabis and poppy to state agencies through the Zonal offices of NCB to State Agencies for effective destruction.
 - (e) NCB from time to time conduct studies regarding ways and means for demand and supply reduction and suggests measures for the same.
 - (f) India has signed Bilateral Agreement/Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on drug related matter with Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan & Myanmar.
 - (g) Director General (DG) level talks are held regularly with Myanmar, Bangladesh and Pakistan.

(h) Participation of NCB in Border Liaison Officers' meeting with Myanmar, Pakistan and Bangladesh along with agencies like Intelligence Bureau (IB), Border Security Force (BSF), National Investigating Agency (NIA), Military Intelligence and Assam Rifles for sharing of intelligence and ascertaining changing trends in trafficking.

(i) Various Ministerial, Secretary level talks are held with neighbouring countries.

To check smuggling of drugs utilization across Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bhutan borders, Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) has so far established 618 Border Out Posts (BOP) (468 on Indo-Nepal Border and 150 on Indo-Bhutan Border) which regularly carry out various operational activities like patrolling and naka-bandi along the border. Checking of persons crossing the border is also being carried out both randomly as well as on the basis of inputs received from own sources/sister agencies. Continuous monitoring is being done. Field formation and intelligence set ups have been sensitized.

Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) has taken the following specific steps to prevent smuggling activities along Indo-China border:-

- (a) Establishing of Observation Posts (OPs)/Listening Posts(LP) at Border Out Posts (BOPs).
- (b) Opening of new BOPs.
- (c) Placing adequate troops at BOPs.
- (d) Aerial Recce is being carried out as per requirement.
- (e) Winter Air Surveillance Operation Sortie (WASO) are conducted in conjunction with Army.
- (f) Unmanned areas/gaps on Indo-China border are being regularly patrolled.
- (g) Effective use of high tech surveillance equipment like Night Vision Devices(NVDs), Hand Held Thermal Images (HHTIs), Long Range Observation and Recce System (LORROS) and High Power Telescope is being used by ITBP troops deployed at forward BOPs to keep strict vigil on Indo-China Border.
- (h) Human Intelligence.

Border Security Force (BSF) has taken the following measures to augment domination & surveillance along Indo-Pak and Indo-Bangladesh borders to contain the smuggling activities:

- (a) Effective surveillance of the border.
- (b) Erection of fencing on the international border.
- (c) Floodlighting of the border to enhance observation during night hours.
- (d) Introduction of Force multipliers and Hi-tech Surveillance equipments.
- (e) Raising the issues of smuggling from across the border during various meetings.
- (f) Review and strengthening of Border Operation Posts with additional manpower, special surveillance equipments, vehicles and other infrastructure support.
- (g) Upgradation of Intelligence(Int.) network and coordination with sister agencies.
- (h) Conduct of special operations along the border.
- (i) Frequent visits to border by senior officers to supervise effective domination of the border.
- (j) Two additional Battallions have been deployed on Jammu International Border for effective domination of the International Border.

Central Board of Excise & Customs (CBEC) has informed that constant surveillance is kept on Seaports, Airports, and Land Customs Stations. Other strategic actions include effective coordination with other Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, exchange of information, investigative assistance, and upgrading the skills to control the drug menace.