

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:151  
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2015  
Smuggling of Snake Venom  
Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether snake venom weighing 4082 kilogram worth Rs. 100 crore had been seized by the Police and persons involved in snake venom smuggling had been arrested in West Bengal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether cases of illegal trading of snake venom are increasing and the smugglers are smuggling the snake venom to Bhutan through West Bengal; and
- (d) if so, the effective steps taken by the Government to check smuggling of snake venom and to arrest and punish the guilty persons?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
(SHRI HARIBHAI PARATHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (d): Some incidents of Smuggling of Snake Venom have been reported in the Media. The data on Smuggling of Snake Venom is not maintained centrally. 'Police' and 'Public Order' are the State subjects under the seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and therefore, the State Governments are primarily responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crime and for prosecuting the criminals through the machinery of their law enforcement agencies as also for protecting the life and property of  
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the citizens. Further, Section 12 (d) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, empowers the State Chief Wildlife Warden, with the previous permission of the concerned State Government, to grant a permit, by an order in writing stating the reasons therefore, to any person, on payment of such fees for the derivation, collection or preparation of snake-venom for the manufacture of life-saving drugs.  
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