

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2556
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2014
SMUGGLING OF FOODGRAINS
Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of smuggling of foodgrains meant for PDS including wheat belonging to Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana to Nepal via Uttar Pradesh in connivance of officials of civil supply department and police;
- (b) if so, the number of such cases reported and quantum of wheat seized therein during the current year; and
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to check cross border smuggling of foodgrains meant for PDS?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Indo-Nepal border is free from visa regime and movement of people from both the countries across the border is open and free. There were instances of intercepting smuggling of foodgrains by Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB). However, there are no specific inputs to suggest that foodgrains meant for PDS supplies including wheat belonging to Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana are smuggled to Nepal via Uttar Pradesh.

Details of foodgrains including wheat seized by SSB in the year 2014(up to 30.11.2014) in Uttar Pradesh on Indo-Nepal border are as under:

Name of items	Nos. of cases (In Kgs)	Qty. Arrested (In Nos.)
---------------	------------------------	-------------------------

Pulses	1	225 0
Rice	3	6950 2
Suger	3	250 0
Wheat	5	10290 5
Total	12	17715 7

(c): 31 Battalions of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) has been deployed on the Indo-Nepal border to check illegal activities like smuggling of foodgrains including wheat. Regular presence and round- the-clock patrolling and surveillance are carried out by SSB. Border Out Posts and Observation Posts have been established at various points on the Indo Nepal border. Field formation & intelligence set ups have been sensitized to check the smuggling of goods including foodgrains.