

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.15
TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY, JULY 21, 2025/ ASHADHA 30, 1947 (SAKA)

Action against Illegal Offshore Cryptocurrency Platforms

15. Shri Putta Mahesh Kumar:

Shri Krishna Prasad Tenneti:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study/survey regarding the illegal offshore cryptocurrency platforms presently functioning in the country;
- (b) if so, the list of such platforms, the country of origin and total valuation during the last five years;
- (c) the details regarding the action taken by the Government to curb such illegal platforms; and
- (d) whether the Government has undertaken any activities/campaign to raise awareness regarding the dangers of using such illegal platforms amongst the common man of the country, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (d): At present, crypto / virtual assets are not regulated in India. Consequently, the question of the legality or illegality of specific crypto platforms does not arise as on date. However, to ensure oversight from an anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) perspective, the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU-IND) registers Virtual Asset Service Providers (VASPs) under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). This registration requirement applies equally to domestic and offshore platforms that cater to users based in India. FIU-IND therefore maintains a dynamic list of virtual asset service providers who are not registered with them. Separately, the Finance Act, 2022, introduced Section 194S in the Income-tax Act, 1961, mandating a 1% Tax Deducted at Source (TDS) on the transfer of Virtual Digital Assets (VDAs). This applies to all transactions, including those involving offshore entities, if the income is chargeable to tax in India. Further the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued advisories warning users, holders, and traders of virtual currencies or crypto assets about the potential risks, including economic, financial, operational, legal, and security concerns. These advisories have been sector-wide and have not commented on individual platforms.
