

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:6

ANSWERED ON:02.12.2003

STAMP PAPERS SCAM

ALE NARENDRA;CHINTAMAN NAVSHA WANAGA

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases reported and the value of fake stamp papers seized during each of the last three years till date, State-wise;
- (b) the loss of revenue suffered by the Government on this account;
- (c) the number of persons arrested during the said period, state-wise;
- (d) whether persons apprehended in cases relating to stamp papers scam have been found to have nexus with militant outfits, police and bureaucrats/politicians;
- (e) if so, the details in this regard;
- (f) whether it is a fact that the kingpin of this scam managed to get printing presses from Government Security Printing Press, Nasik intact which were supposed to have been dismantled after being declared unserviceable; and
- (g) the steps taken by the Government to check the printing/circulation of such fake stamp papers in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SWAMI CHINMAYNANAD)

(a) to (g): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 6 FOR 2.12.2003 REGARDING S PAPERS SCAM.

(a) to (c): As per the available information, 7 cases have been registered by the Central Bureau of Investigation relating to Fake Stamp Papers, 20 accused persons have been arrested and forged stamps of the value of Rs. 22,21,73,856/- have been seized during 2001 to 24.11.2003. The state-wise break-up is as follows:

State	2001		
CR	PA	FSS	2002
CR	PA	FSS	2003 upto 27.11.2003
CR	PA	FSS	

Andhra Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	Rs.339728
Delhi	2	2	Rs.3862000	-	-	1	1	Rs.130000000
Gujarat	-	-	-	1	9	Rs.87881628	-	-
Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	1	-	Rs.90500	1	-

PS: CR (Cases Registered); PA (Persons Arrested); (FFS) Forged Stamps Seized

According to the available information, the state-wise details of the number of cases registered and the persons arrested are as follows:

States No. of cases No. of arrests

Maharashtra	16	104
Karnataka	6	32
West Bengal	1	8
Uttar Pradesh	1	9
Gujarat	1	3
Tamil Nadu	3	7
Chandigarh	1	4
Delhi	3	10

(d) & (e): No link with any militant outfits with the persons arrested in the cases relating to stamp papers scam has come to the notice so far. Seventeen police officers/personnel and two politicians have been arrested for their alleged links with the persons accused in the stamp paper scam.

(f): According to the records available at India Security Press, Nashik, out of 12 condemned perforating machines, 10machines have been sold to different firms and two machines are lying at VAT House of ISP. It is alleged that Abdul Karim Telgi managed to get two perforating machines from the India Security Press, Nashik during an auction with the help of some officials working in ISP.

(g): On recommendations of a Working Group, the Government of India has decided to introduce additional securityfeatures in the stamp papers. The Security environment at India Security Press, Nashik has been strengthened andthe Central Industrial Security Force has been inducted. States have been requested to conduct regular verification of the stocks of authorized vendors to prevent entry of fake stamp papers. The banking and insurance sectors have been requested to take preventive and remedial measures to deal with the problem of fake stamp papers. States have been advised the introduction of technologically feasible alternatives to stamp papers and some states have already introduced franking machines for higher denomination stamp papers. Instructions have also been issued that disposal of old machinery should be done only after dismantling and crushing them in the presence of responsible officers and should be sold as a scrap. Union Home Secretary has taken a series of meetings to review the action taken for countering the problem of fake stamp papers scam and written to all state Chief Secretaries on 6.8.2003 in this connection.