

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1473
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2006
SMUGGLING OF INDIAN CURRENCY
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Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian currency is being freely traded in HongKong these days;
- (b) if so, whether Indian are not allowed to take with them Indian currency abroad;
- (c) if so, whether Government have examined the circumstances under which the Indian currency was being smuggled abroad;
- (d) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to stop smuggling of Indian currency?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(a)&(b) In this connection it is stated that some local newspapers in Hong Kong are quoting rates of exchange for Indian Currency vis-À-vis HK\$. However these rates are not indicated by Hong Kong Banks Association or the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA). It may be mentioned that HKMA has not authorized Banks for purchasing Indian Rupees and even Indian Banks in Hong Kong are not to entertain deposits in Indian Rupees.

(c)&(d) The details of seizures wherein Indian Currency was being smuggled out of India during the last three years as as under:-

Period	Details of seizure	Value of seizure(RS. in lakhs)
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2003-04	Indian currency seized alongwith Foreign IC-0.40 currency at Dabolim Airport, Goa from passenger who was destined for Sharjah F.C.-8.37	
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2004-05	Nil	Nil
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2005-06	1. Indian currency seized from a baggage (till at CSI Airport, Sahar on 18-11-05 from a date) flight destined for Dubai. No passenger was apprehended but a Gulf Airlines employee was arrested for her complicity in dispatching the baggage.	69.95
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	2. Indian currency seized from a baggage at CSI Airport, Sahar on 6.12.05 destined for Muscat. The passenger did not board the flight and could not be apprehended	106.00
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(e) Field formations have been sensitized to remain vigilant.