

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2511
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2006
SMUGGLING OF CHEMICALS
Singh Shri Uday

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

:

- (a) whether the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence has recently busted a multi core rupee smuggling ring that smuggled Ketamine (date drug) and other banned chemicals out of country by hiding them in paintings;
- (b) if so, the modus operandi of the smuggling ring and whether the same have been investigated;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to check such smuggling activities?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S.PALANIMANICKAM)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b)&(c) The modus operandi of the smuggling ring was to smuggle the Ketamine out of country through courier and concealing the same in the packages containing paintings. In this regards, total quantity of 400 kgs of Ketamine valued at Rs.1.40 crores in illicit market was seized and one Taiwanese national has been arrested.

(d) All Customs field formations including Directorate of Revenue Intelligence are alert and vigilant to prevent and thwart smuggling of Ketamine (date drug) and other banned chemicals out of country.