

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3255**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 29TH MARCH, 2023/ CHAITRA 8, 1945 (SAKA)

NATIONAL INVESTIGATION AGENCY

3255 # SHRI RAKESH SINHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government intends to make the National Investigation Agency (NIA) a world class investigative agency; and**
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)**

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Keeping in view the zero tolerance policy against terrorism, the Central Government regularly reviews administrative and legal requirements of National Investigation Agency (NIA) and takes necessary steps to enable it to discharge its mandate in a more effective and professional manner.

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has taken several measures since 2019 towards enhancing the capacity of NIA, which, interalia, include as under:

- i) The NIA, with its headquarters (Hqrs) at New Delhi, has 18 Branch Offices in the country. Of them, 10 branch offices at Chandigarh, Ranchi, Imphal, Chennai, Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Patna, Jaipur, Bhopal and Bhubaneshwar, with additional 481 posts, have been created since July, 2019.**
- ii) 142 additional posts have been sanctioned for establishment of two Divisions at NIA Hqrs, one for investigation and monitoring of Human Trafficking cases and the other for investigation of Offences of Cyber Terrorism, Explosives and Prohibited Arms and also for strengthening of legal cadre in NIA Headquarters.**
- iii) The NIA Act was amended in the year 2019 to enlarge the mandate of the NIA by inclusion of offences related to human trafficking, manufacture/sale of prohibited arms, cyber-terrorism and offences under the Explosive Substances Act, 1908 and expanded its jurisdiction beyond India.**
- iv) Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 was amended in year 2019 to inter-alia empower Director General (DG), NIA to seize/attach the properties related to proceeds of terrorism in cases being investigated by the NIA.**

- v) NIA's capacity enhancement has been ensured by providing prompt approvals for scientific & technological support in terms of equipments and skill.**

- vi) In order to give more autonomy and independence to the NIA, the financial powers delegated to DG, NIA for engaging consultants/ experts/ professionals have been enhanced substantially.**

- vii) The allocation of funds has consistently been increased since 2019-20.**
