

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1044**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 4TH DECEMBER, 2024/ AGRAHAYANA 13, 1946
(SAKA)**

FICN RECOVERED IN WEST BENGAL

1044 SHRI SAMIK BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN) recovered from West Bengal over the last five years, details thereof;**
- (b) the number of FICN-related cases currently being investigated by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in West Bengal;**
- (c) the success rate of the NIA in securing convictions in FICN cases in the State;**
- (d) measures that have been implemented to curb the smuggling and distribution of FICN in the State; and**
- (e) whether any special task forces or operations have been introduced in West Bengal to address the issue of FICN more effectively?**

ANSWER

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

- (a) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles the Data on the crime as reported to it by States and Union Territories and publishes the same in its annual report. The latest published report is of the year 2022. As per published reports, the total number of Fake Indian Currency**

Notes (FICN) recovered from West Bengal over the last Five years during 2018-2022 is as under:

| Year | Total Number of FICN recovered from West Bengal |
|--------------|--|
| 2018 | 13109 |
| 2019 | 24037 |
| 2020 | 24227 |
| 2021 | 15918 |
| 2022 | 13370 |
| Total | 90661 |

(b) & (c): NIA, since its inception in the year 2008, has investigated 15 FICN related cases in West Bengal. Out of which, in all the 13 decided cases, the conviction rate of 100% has been secured.

(d): Counterfeiting of currency notes is an offence under Chapter-X of The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita 2023, with maximum punishment being Life Imprisonment. Damage to the monetary stability of India by way of production or smuggling or circulation of High Quality Counterfeit Indian Paper Currency, Coin or of any other material has been declared as a Terrorist Act under The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967.

An FICN coordination group (FCORD) has been formed by the Ministry of Home Affairs to share intelligence/information among the security agencies of the Centre/States to counter the problem of Circulation of fake currency notes in the country. A Terror Funding and Fake Currency

(TFFC) Cell has also been constituted in NIA to conduct focused investigation of terror funding and fake currency cases.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between India and Bangladesh to prevent and counter smuggling and circulation of fake currency notes.

A Joint Task Force (JTF) has been instituted between India and Bangladesh and has been quite effective in building trust and cooperation between the two countries for exchange of information relating to FICN. Six such meetings of JTF have already been taken place since 2014. NIA has conducted capacity building programmes of various Law Enforcement Agencies at Central and State level as well as for police officers of neighbouring countries including Bangladesh and Nepal for dealing with FICN smuggling.

(e): “Police” and “Public Order” are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. State police has the primary responsibility of prevention, detection registration, investigation and prosecution of crimes, which includes crimes related to fake currencies. However, various measures have been taken by the Central Government to tackle the fake currency menace as replied at (d) above.
