GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4335
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.04.2018

SUSPENSION OF PASSPORTS OF PNB SCAM ACCUSED

4335. SHRI HARIVANSH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has suspended the passports of persons accused in Punjab National Bank (PNB) scam ;

(b) whether any time has been given to them to respond;

(c) if so, whether any response has been received from them, so far;

(d) if not, what is the future course of action proposed to be taken against them; and

(e) whether the Ministry has any clue about the whereabouts of these accused?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) Yes. The Ministry suspended the passports of Shri Nirav Deepak Modi and Shri Mehul Chinubhai Choksi in accordance with Section 10A of the Passports Act, 1967, on 16 February, 2018.

(b) to (d) Show Cause Notices were served on Shri Nirav Deepak Modi and Shri Mehul Chinubhai Choksi by the Passport Issuing Authority (PIA) under the Ministry on 16 February, 2018 giving them a time period of one week to respond. Since they failed to respond within the stipulated time period, their passports were revoked by the PIA under the Ministry on 23 February, 2018.

(e) The Ministry has sought the provisional arrest of Shri Nirav Deepak Modi by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, People's Republic of China, for which a request has been submitted to them on 23 March, 2018.

*****