

Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.228
TO BE ANSWERED ON TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2021
Ashadha 29, 1943 (Saka)

ED and Customs investigation of cases

228: Shri John Brittas:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and Customs had enquired in to the incidents of gold smuggling to Kerala from the Gulf in the guise of diplomatic baggages;
- (b) If so, the status of investigation and the names of people involved in the crime;
- (c) Whether certain persons arrested in connection with gold smuggling under the guise of diplomatic baggage to Kerala had accused Enforcement Directorate and Customs of pressuring them to name persons occupying high positions; and
- (d) If so, the details thereof and the response of Government thereto?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) Customs, CBIC has issued Show Cause Notice in the case on 16.06.2021. Enforcement Directorate has filed one Original Prosecution Complaint and another Supplementary Prosecution Complaint before the Hon'ble Special Court (PMLA), Ernakulam in the case.
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) One of the accused had sent a Complaint to the Special Court (PMLA) containing certain allegations against officers of the ED that they had pressurized him to name persons occupying high positions in Govt. of Kerala. Kerala Police (Crime Branch) had registered two FIRs in the above matter. The said two FIRs were later quashed by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala vide order dated 16.04.2021.
