

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2967  
ANSWERED ON-19/08/2025**

**HYDERABAD AS THE EPICENTER OF SMUGGLING OF RAW HUMAN HAIR**

2967 Shri Yerram Venkata Subba Reddy:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether Hyderabad is the epicenter of smuggling of raw human hair;
- (b) Whether Directorate of Revenue Intelligence recently intercepted a consignment of temple hair from Tirupati heading towards Myanmar and arrested one smuggler;
- (c) Whether human hair smugglers from Telangana and Andhra Pradesh selling hair through shell companies in North-East and Kolkata and then smuggled to China, Myanmar, etc.; and
- (d) if so, how Government is planning to stop this smuggling?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c): No such cases have been detected by Customs field formations and Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) under CBIC since the Financial Year 2023-24, where Hyderabad found as the epicentre of smuggling of raw human hair or temple hair from Tirupati heading towards Myanmar has been intercepted by DRI or involving human hair smugglers from Telangana and Andhra Pradesh selling hair through shell companies in North-East and Kolkata.

(d) The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry, vide Notification No. 59/2024-25 dated 10.02.2025, has revised the export policy for “unworked human hair whether or not washed or scoured and waste of human hair”, reclassifying them from ‘Restricted’ to ‘Prohibited’ item. However, export shall be “Free” if FOB value is US Dollar 65 or above per Kilogram.

Further, to deter smuggling, the DRI and Customs field formations maintain constant vigil and undertake operational measures inter alia, based on intelligence, risk-based interdiction and targeting and non-intrusive inspection like container scanning.

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