

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2973**  
ANSWERED ON – 19/08/2025

**Smuggling of gold through airports**

2973. Dr. V. Sivadasan:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total quantity and value of gold seized at airports across the country during the last five years, year-wise, State-wise, and airport-wise;
- (b) whether the number of smuggling attempts through air routes has increased or decreased during this period;
- (c) the details of action taken against persons and syndicates involved in smuggling, including number of arrests and convictions; and
- (d) the specific measures undertaken by the Customs Department to detect and prevent gold smuggling through airports, including use of surveillance, intelligence, and technology?

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

- (a) The details of seizure of gold at airports by Customs field formations and Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) under CBIC during last five years is enclosed as **Annexure-A**.
- (b) The seizure cases indicate increase in smuggling attempts till FY 2023-24 and thereafter decline has been noticed.
- (c) The details are enclosed as **Annexure-B**.
- (d) The Customs field formations and DRI keep a constant vigil and take operational measures, inter alia, based on intelligence, passenger profiling with the aid of Advance Passenger Information System (APIS), risk-based interdiction and targeting, non-intrusive inspection like baggage scanning; rummaging of carriers, including aircrafts, and coordination with other agencies for purposes of thwarting gold smuggling. Field formations are regularly sensitized to newer methods of smuggling.

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**ANNEXURE-A**  
(To Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2973 answered on 19.08.2025)

| Name of State/UT | Name of Airport                               | 2020-21             |                  | 2021-22             |                  | 2022-23             |                  | 2023-24             |                  | 2024-25             |                  | 2025-26<br>(Upto June 2025) |                  |
|------------------|---|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
|                  |   | Quantity<br>(in KG) | Value<br>(in Cr) | Quantity<br>(in KG) | Value<br>(in Cr) | Quantity<br>(in KG) | Value<br>(in Cr) | Quantity<br>(in KG) | Value<br>(in Cr) | Quantity<br>(in KG) | Value<br>(in Cr) | Quantity<br>(in KG)         | Value<br>(in Cr) |
| Chandigarh       | Shaheed Bhagat Singh International Airport    | 0.75                | 0.35             | 3.50                | 1.70             | 40.33               | 21.89            | 13.45               | 8.15             | 3.46                | 2.38             | 0.44                        | 0.41             |
| Goa              | Dabolim International Airport                 | 7.33                | 3.10             | 7.52                | 3.39             | 12.27               | 5.99             | 22.33               | 12.32            | 1.38                | 0.93             | 0.24                        | 0.21             |
| Gujarat          | SVPIA Ahmedabad                               | 17.06               | 7.20             | 33.95               | 15.00            | 112.45              | 55.19            | 209.29              | 108.82           | 88.52               | 67.46            | 4.14                        | 3.85             |
| Karnataka        | Mangalore International Airport               | 24.38               | 12.63            | 16.77               | 8.06             | 53.85               | 28.71            | 30.57               | 18.43            | 10.28               | 7.57             | --                          | --               |
|                  | Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru   | 33.15               | 16.07            | 38.97               | 18.82            | 58.44               | 28.20            | 192.49              | 111.67           | 112.43              | 82.80            | 6.10                        | 5.82             |
| Kerala           | Trivandrum Airport                            | 28.13               | 13.00            | 21.77               | 10.46            | 29.31               | 15.70            | 65.72               | 41.45            | 19.87               | 14.62            | 2.08                        | 1.79             |
|                  | Cochin Airport                                | 78.98               | 36.52            | 105.57              | 46.01            | 175.68              | 83.28            | 195.97              | 103.21           | 69.96               | 46.21            | 1.28                        | 1.04             |
|                  | Calicut Airport                               | 146.86              | 65.49            | 204.51              | 86.94            | 324.69              | 148.61           | 303.57              | 175.60           | 174.42              | 109.19           | 5.60                        | 5.17             |
|                  | Kannur Airport                                | 55.55               | 27.65            | 60.13               | 28.46            | 77.06               | 41.18            | 62.66               | 38.09            | 13.75               | 11.64            | --                          | --               |
| Maharashtra      | CSMIA, Mumbai                                 | 87.00               | 38.14            | 91.30               | 40.35            | 614.70              | 312.99           | 1091.30             | 581.00           | 649.57              | 447.00           | 44.53                       | 40.42            |
| New Delhi        | IGI Airport, Delhi                            | 88.37               | 38.48            | 119.72              | 50.10            | 420.36              | 209.84           | 474.21              | 256.24           | 253.48              | 173.88           | 14.82                       | 13.45            |
| Punjab           | SGRDJI, Airport Amritsar                      | 26.45               | 15.38            | 33.21               | 15.83            | 27.19               | 10.00            | 35.98               | 21.99            | 6.26                | 5.51             | --                          | --               |
| Rajasthan        | Sanganer International Airport, Jaipur        | 36.76               | 19.72            | 12.64               | 6.51             | 34.44               | 19.05            | 55.17               | 34.14            | 13.91               | 10.58            | 0.68                        | 0.66             |
| Tamil Nadu       | Chennai International Airport                 | 150.92              | 70.29            | 179.29              | 90.19            | 336.32              | 155.12           | 409.24              | 225.47           | 194.71              | 132.01           | 3.77                        | 3.10             |
|                  | Trichy Airport                                | 76.03               | 41.16            | 89.71               | 42.73            | 55.48               | 30.10            | 77.22               | 48.38            | 33.16               | 24.58            | 0.27                        | 0.25             |
|                  | Coimbatore Airport                            | 37.74               | 19.32            | 29.73               | 14.72            | 70.73               | 38.66            | 54.59               | 34.23            | 18.56               | 13.95            | 0.14                        | 0.12             |
|                  | Madurai Airport                               | 8.48                | 4.48             | 6.40                | 3.12             | 14.59               | 7.70             | 19.31               | 12.00            | 7.98                | 5.18             | --                          | --               |
| Telangana        | Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Hyderabad | 33.47               | 16.89            | 55.85               | 27.45            | 136.28              | 69.76            | 137.73              | 86.69            | 43.90               | 33.11            | 6.33                        | 6.17             |
| Tripura          | Maharaja Bir Bikram Airport , Agartala        | 1.44                | 0.71             | 1.44                | 0.72             | 5.06                | 2.50             | 2.25                | 1.24             | 1.01                | 0.77             | 0.46                        | 0.46             |
| Uttar Pradesh    | LBSI Airport, Varanasi                        | 0.80                | 0.38             | 7.28                | 3.55             | 8.50                | 4.58             | 14.22               | 8.58             | 1.47                | 1.10             | --                          | --               |
|                  | CCSI Airport Lucknow                          | 25.57               | 12.94            | 43.30               | 21.49            | 25.27               | 13.42            | 65.13               | 41.79            | 11.87               | 8.86             | --                          | --               |
| West Bengal      | NSCBI Airport, Kolkata                        | 32.08               | 16.59            | 25.44               | 12.69            | 66.03               | 35.55            | 65.32               | 38.47            | 36.14               | 27.89            | 4.48                        | 4.12             |
| Other Airports   |   | 3.20                | 1.58             | 51.87               | 23.93            | 76.86               | 43.53            | 116.67              | 73.43            | 47.10               | 34.10            | 3.87                        | 3.91             |

**ANNEXURE-B****(To Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2973 answered on 19.08.2025)**

| <b>Financial Year</b>               | <b>No. of persons arrested<br/>against gold smuggling<br/>cases at Airports during<br/>the Financial Year</b> | <b>No. of persons<br/>convicted against gold<br/>smuggling cases at<br/>Airports during the<br/>Financial Year</b> |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>2020-21</b>                      | 924   | 1  |
| <b>2021-22</b>                      | 1051  | 3  |
| <b>2022-23</b>                      | 1197  | 5  |
| <b>2023-24</b>                      | 1533  | 5  |
| <b>2024-25</b>                      | 908   | 1  |
| <b>2025-26 (upto June<br/>2025)</b> | 76  | 1  |