GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 231

ANSWERED ON TUESDAY, 02ND DECEMBER, 2025/ AGRAHAYANA 11, 1947 (SAKA)

Strengthening of SFIO QUESTION

231. SHRI SANJAY SETH:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) what specific structural reforms have been undertaken to strengthen the investigative capacity of Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO);
- (b) in what manner (SFIO) leveraged advanced forensic and digital tools to improve detection and prosecution of corporate frauds.
- (c) whether there has been an increase in the number of cases referred to Serious Fraud Investigation Office in recent years.
- (d) the metrics are being used to evaluate the success rate of SFIO-led prosecutions, the details thereof; and
- (e) the manner by which inter-agency coordination is enhanced to ensure timely and effective resolution of complex fraud cases?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS.

(SHRI HARSH MALHOTRA)

(a) & (b): SFIO is a multi-disciplinary organization consisting of experts/professionals in the fields of accountancy, forensic auditing, law, information technology, investigation, company law, capital market, banking and taxation, etc.

SFIO has established a dedicated Computer Forensic & Data Mining Laboratory (CFDML) equipped with advanced technology to support digital forensic, data analytics, and examination of complex electronic records to strengthen the investigation. CFDML uses state-of-the-art tools which help in the extraction,

preservation, and deep analysis of digital data obtained from electronic devices and corporate IT systems. This helps to detect irregularities such as round-tripping, shell transactions, falsification of accounts and diversion of funds.

During the course of investigation, right from allotment to completion of investigation, each case is subjected to multiple review, to ensure accuracy & effective investigation.

SFIO also imparts regular in-house & external training to the officers for enhancing their skills for effective & efficient investigation.

(c): Investigation assigned to the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) under Section 212 of the Companies Act, 2013 during the last five financial years is as under:

Financial Year	No. of Cases referred to
	SFIO
2020-21	20
2021-22	14
2022-23	7
2023-24	5
2024-25	13

- (d): After investigation undertaken by SFIO, the complaints are filed in designated Courts. The orders passed by Courts convicting offenders are the basis of evaluation of the success rate of SFIO-led prosecution.
- (e): There are mechanisms for collaboration and data integration among enforcement and intelligence agencies. Section 212(17)(a) and (b) of the Companies Act, 2013 provides for sharing of information with other law enforcement agencies.
