GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3424

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 22nd MARCH, 2017

Curb on Malpractices during Election

3424. SHRI DHARAM VIRA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has succeeded in addressing the issues of drugs, liquor and illicit money in the recently concluded elections in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Manipur, Goa and Uttarakhand;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details of such seized drugs, liquor, illicit money etc.; and
- (c) the details of the such incidents and the cases registered against those involved?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI P.P.CHAUDHARY)

- (a): The Election Commission has informed that the Commission has effectively enforced the Election Expenditure Monitoring mechanism during elections and has taken the following important measures in the General Elections to the Legislative Assemblies of Goa, Manipur, Punjab, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh 2017:-
- (i) Appointment of Expenditure Observers; deployment of Flying Squads and Static Surveillance Teams to keep vigil over movement of cash linked with candidates or political parties, or items of bribe meant for inducement of electors, including liquor and drugs during elections.
- (ii) State Excise Departments were requested to co-ordinate with all Enforcement agencies, General/Expenditure Observers, officers of the Commission and also with various officers/teams engaged in election expenditure monitoring.
- (iii) The Director Generals of Income Tax (Inv.) of the five States were requested to appoint Nodal Officer of Income Tax Department to co-ordinate with all enforcement agencies, General/Expenditure Observers and officers of the Commission.
- (iv) The Commission requested Narcotics Control Bureau to appoint a Nodal Officer and also one Nodal Officer in each State to liaise and co-ordinate with the Nodal officers of the Office of the Chief

Electoral Officer (CEO), State Police Department, State Excise Department and Income Tax Department.

- (v) Constitution of Media Certification and Monitoring Committee to keep a watch on media advertisements and suspected cases of paid news.
- (vi) Maintenance of Shadow Observation Register and Folder of evidence in respect of each contesting candidate to monitor day to day expenditure incurred by them
- (vii) Video Surveillance Teams were deployed to oversee major items of expenditure; opening of separate bank accounts by the candidate and involving the Income Tax Department to keep vigil over movement of cash through the airports, hotels, financial brokers etc.
- (viii) The Commission issued instructions to all candidates and political parties to avoid cash transactions during election process.
- (ix) CEOs of the five States were directed to identify Expenditure Sensitive Constituencies, Expenditure Sensitive Pockets for effective implementation of Election Expenditure Monitoring mechanism during the election.
- (b): The Election Commission has informed that a huge amounts of cash, liquor and drugs/narcotics were seized by the Flying Squads/Static Surveillance Teams/Income Tax Department etc., as under:-

| Name of State | Cash (Rs.) | Liquor (litres & approx. value) | Drugs/Narcotics (Kg. & |
|---------------|------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | | | approx. value) |
| Punjab | Rs. 58.02 | 12.43 lakh litres worth Rs. 13.36 Crore | 2598 Kg Drugs/ Narcotics |
| | Crore | | worth Rs. 18.26 Crore |
| Goa | Rs. 2.24 | 76299 litres worth Rs. 1.07 Crore | 6 Kg Drugs/Narcotics worth |
| | Crore | | Rs. 33.21 lakh |
| Uttarakhand | Rs. 3.38 | 1.01 lakh litres worth Rs. 3.10 | 81 Kg worth Rs. 37.23 |
| | Crore | Crore. | lakh |
| Uttar Pradesh | Rs. 119.03 | 22.43 lakh litres worth Rs. | 3218 Kg Drugs/ Narcotics |
| | Crore | 64.66 Crore | worth Rs. 9.60 Crore |
| Manipur | Rs. 2.18 | 63722 litres worth Rs. 1.02 Crore | (i) 361 Kg Drugs/Narcotics |
| | Crore | | worth Rs. 3.22 Crore |
| | | | (ii) Destruction of illicit |
| | | | cultivation of Opium (poppy) |
| | | | in 371 acres land. |

(c): The Commission has further informed the details of the total number of FIRs/Police Cases registered as under:-

| Name of State | No. of FIRs/Police cases registered for excise | No. of FIRs/Police cases |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | law violation | registered for Expenditure related |
| | | violation |
| Punjab | 1667 | 2142 |
| Goa | 161 | 47 |
| Uttarakhand | 782 | 54 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 3326 | 2333 |
| Manipur | 1167 | 03 |
