

Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.983
TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY, JULY 26, 2021
Sravana 4, 1943 (Saka)

Probe Against Central Agencies

983: ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the State Government of Kerala has ordered judicial probe against the Central agencies investigating gold smuggling through diplomatic channel;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government is aware of the delay in investigation by the central agencies;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the present status of the investigation in this case?

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

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) The Govt. of Kerala vide Notification S.R.O. No. 389/2021 dt. 07.05.2021 under section 3 of the Commission of Inquiry Act 1952 (Central Act 60 of 1952), has appointed a Single member commission of enquiry headed by Hon'ble Mr. Justice (Retd) Shri V.K. Mohanan, to examine, matters relating to the diversion of investigation conducted by various Central Agencies in Kerala from July 2020. The Enforcement Directorate challenged the appointment of Judicial Commission before the High Court of Kerala, which is pending.
- (c) There is no delay in the investigation of the case.
- (d) Not applicable in the view of (c) above.
- (e) Prosecution Complaints have already been filed by the Enforcement Directorate. Show cause notice has been issued on 16.06.2021 by the CBIC within the statutory limit prescribed under Customs Act, 1962. Investigation in the case RC-02/2020/NIA/KOC (Trivandrum Gold Smuggling Case) is also continuing.
