

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 282
ANSWERED ON MONDAY, 02ND FEBRUARY 2026
MAGHA 13, 1947 (SAKA)**

ACTION AGAINST SHELL COMPANIES

**282. Shri Nilesh Dnyandev Lanke:
Shri Bhumare Sandipanrao Asaram:
Shri Gyaneshwar Patil:
Dr. Shivaji Bandappa Kalge:**

Will the Minister of Corporate Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the number of shell companies identified, struck off or penalised across the country during the last three years and the specific measures taken to prevent their revival;**
- (b) whether the Government is developing a real time data verification system to curb the issuance of fraudulent or fake Director Identification Numbers in the country;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof particularly in respect of Maharashtra;**
- (d) whether the Government has initiated any formal collaboration with enforcement agencies to monitor and track money laundering activities lined to such shell entities in the country;**
- (e) if so, the State-wise details thereof including Maharashtra; and**
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

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

[SHRI HARSH MALHOTRA]

(a) : The term 'Shell Company' is not defined in the Companies Act, 2013 (Act). However, from time to time, this Ministry carries out Strike-Off drive

under section 248(1) for striking off such companies which are not carrying on any business or operation for a period of two immediately preceding financial years and has not made any application within such period for obtaining the status of a dormant company under section 455 of the Act or the subscribers to the memorandum have not paid the subscription which they had undertaken to pay at the time of incorporation of a company and a declaration to this effect has not been filed within one hundred and eighty days of its incorporation under sub-section (1) of section 10A of the Act. The last strike-off drive was carried out in the year 2022-23.

Further, under section 248(2) of the Companies Act, 2013 such companies which voluntarily seek removal of their name from the Registrar of Companies after extinguishing all its liabilities are struck off by following due process in the prescribed manner.

Total 1,27,346 Companies were Struck-off u/s 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 during the last 3 years and the current year and details are as under:

Sl. No	Details	Action U/s 248(1)	Action U/s 248(2)
1	FY 2022-2023	68,893	13,169
2	FY 2023-2024	-	16,464
3	FY 2024-2025	-	15,837
4	FY 2025-2026 (till December, 2025)	-	12,983
	Total number of Companies	68,893	58,453

As per Section 252 of the companies Act, 2013 any person aggrieved by an order of the Registrar of Companies (RoC) passed under sections 248(1) & 248 (2) may file an appeal to the Tribunal. The Tribunal, after giving reasonable opportunity of hearing / making representation to all stakeholders including RoC, has the power to order restoration of the registration of the company.

(b) & (c) : The necessary validations and real time data verification system is in place to detect fake or duplicate Director Identification Numbers (DIN).

(d), (e) & (f) : As the term Shell Company has not been defined under the Companies Act, 2013 thus requisite information is not maintained. However details of Companies observed to be indulging in suspicious/potentially fraudulent transactions are shared by Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) reports, CEIB (Central Economic Intelligence Bureau) references, SLCC (State Level Co-ordination Committee) with the Ministry which serves as important inputs in taking up Inquiry/ Inspection/ Investigation under Sections 206(4), 206(5) and 210 of the Companies Act, 2013 respectively.

Further, in the matter of serious fraud, investigation is assigned to the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) under Section 212 of the Companies Act, 2013.

The findings of the Inquiry/Inspection/Investigation reports are also shared with enforcement agencies like Enforcement Directorate (ED), Income Tax (IT) Department, and GST Authorities as the case may be, to enable further course of action against such companies and individuals associated with such companies.
