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INTERPOL Notices

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INTERPOL Notices

A fugitive boards a flight from Delhi to Dubai. Indian police cannot cross the border after him. So they ask INTERPOL to send out a coloured alert, and 196 countries get the message.

Three questions guide this page. What can a notice do? What does each colour mean? And what is new, the Silver Notice and BHARATPOL?

> **196.** INTERPOL member countries
> **1949.** India joins INTERPOL
> **Jan 2025.** Silver Notice pilot began. BHARATPOL launched on 7 Jan
> **133.** Silver Notices by Nov 2025

NCB: National Central Bureau, each country's INTERPOL contact point.

Red Notice: A request to find and provisionally arrest a wanted person.

Silver Notice: A notice to trace criminal assets across borders.

BHARATPOL: A CBI portal for INTERPOL requests.

1 What is an INTERPOL notice, and what can it not do?

Imagine a fugitive who flees from Delhi to Dubai. Indian police cannot follow him across the border. They need a way to warn other countries.

That is what INTERPOL does. It sends colour-coded notices to its 196 member countries.

But INTERPOL has no police force. It cannot arrest anyone. A notice is only a request. Each country decides what to do with it, under its own law.

> **Think it through:** Does a Red Notice force a country to arrest the person?
>
> No. It is a request. The country's own law decides whether to act.

- Members: **196** countries.
- No police force, **no arrest power**.
- A notice is a **request**, not a warrant.
- Most notices come through each country's **National Central Bureau**.

> **Quick check 1.** A Red Notice is an international arrest warrant. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

2 What does each colour mean?

Each colour has one narrow job. Learn them as pairs.

- **Red**: find and arrest a wanted person, pending extradition.
- **Yellow**: find a missing person, often a minor.
- **Blue**: collect more information about a person.
- **Black**: information on unidentified bodies.
- **Green**: warn about a person who is a public-safety threat.
- **Orange**: warn of a serious, imminent threat.
- **Purple**: methods and tools criminals use.

There is also a ninth category, the INTERPOL–UN Security Council Special Notice. It covers people and groups under UN sanctions.

> **Quick check 2.** A Black Notice seeks information on unidentified bodies. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

3 What is the new Silver Notice?

Red Notices chase people. But criminals also hide money. The Silver Notice follows the money instead.

INTERPOL launched it as a pilot in January 2025. It traces property, vehicles, bank accounts and businesses across borders. (Source: INTERPOL)

It began with 52 countries and a cap of 500 notices. By November 2025, 39 countries had issued 133 Silver Notices. They were linked to over €30 billion in suspected harm.

The pilot was then extended through the end of 2026. In September 2025, India's Narcotics Control Bureau secured a Silver Notice concerning the assets of a Dubai-based suspect in a drug-trafficking case. (Source: Akashvani)

- Pilot began: **January 2025**.
- Purpose: **trace criminal assets**.
- Pilot cap: **500 notices**.
- Silver makes **8 colour notices** plus the UN special one, **9** in all.

> **Quick check 3.** The Silver Notice is used to trace missing persons. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

4 What is India's role, and what is BHARATPOL?

India joined INTERPOL in 1949. The Central Bureau of Investigation, CBI, is India's National Central Bureau. It is the single contact point for all INTERPOL work.

On 7 January 2025, at Bharat Mandapam in Delhi, India launched BHARATPOL. It is a CBI-built portal. It speeds up requests from Indian agencies for notices and cross-border help. (Source: PIB)

The portal has "Connect" and "Broadcast" modules. It targets trafficking, cyber fraud and terrorism.

- India joined: **1949**.
- India's NCB: **CBI**.
- BHARATPOL builder: **CBI**.
- Launched: **7 January 2025**.

Quick check 4. BHARATPOL was built by the CBI. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

5 What are the exam traps?

- Red Notice is **not** an arrest warrant.
- Black = **bodies**. Yellow = **missing persons**.
- Silver = **assets**, not people.
- Silver was launched in **2025** as a **pilot**.
- CBI is India's **NCB** and built **BHARATPOL**.

Practice MCQs

1. An INTERPOL Black Notice is used to:

A. Trace criminal assets across borders

B. Locate a wanted person for arrest

C. Warn of a serious imminent threat to public safety

D. Seek information on unidentified bodies

See answer ↓

2. Which one of the following statements about an INTERPOL Red Notice is correct?

A. It is a legally binding international arrest warrant

B. It is a request to national law enforcement to locate and provisionally arrest a person, pending extradition

C. It automatically triggers deportation from any member country

D. It can only be issued by the United Nations Security Council

See answer ↓

3. INTERPOL's newest notice type, launched as a pilot in January 2025, is the:

A. Orange Notice

B. Gold Notice

C. Silver Notice

D. Purple Notice

See answer ↓

4. Which Indian agency serves as India's National Central Bureau for INTERPOL?

A. Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)

B. Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)

C. National Investigation Agency (NIA)

D. Intelligence Bureau (IB)

See answer ↓

5. India's BHARATPOL portal, launched on 7 January 2025, was built by which agency to serve what purpose?

A. Built by RAW, to coordinate overseas intelligence operations

B. Built by the Ministry of External Affairs, to issue passports faster

C. Built by CBI, to speed up Indian agencies' requests for INTERPOL notices and cross-border cooperation

D. Built by NIA, to track terrorism financing only

See answer ↓

6. A Red Corner Notice issued by Interpol requests what action against a wanted person?

A. A permanent international travel ban

B. Freezing of all foreign bank accounts

C. Immediate deportation without trial

D. Provisional arrest, with a view to extradition

See answer ↓

Answer Key

1. **D.** A Black Notice is used to seek information on unidentified bodies. It is one of INTERPOL's eight colour-coded notices.

   ↑ Q1

2. **B.** A Red Notice is a request to national law enforcement agencies to locate and provisionally arrest a person, pending extradition. INTERPOL itself has no police force and no arrest power — a Red Notice is not an international arrest warrant, despite the common misconception.

   ↑ Q2

3. **C.** The Silver Notice, launched as a pilot in January 2025, is used to identify, track, and trace criminal assets across borders — the newest addition to INTERPOL's notice system. ↑ Q3

4. **A.** The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) serves as India's National Central Bureau, the official point of contact for all INTERPOL-related matters. India joined INTERPOL in 1949.

   ↑ Q4

5. **C.** BHARATPOL was built by the CBI and launched on 7 January 2025 at Bharat Mandapam, Delhi. It uses "Connect" and "Broadcast" modules to speed up Indian agencies' requests for INTERPOL notices and cross-border assistance on issues like trafficking, cyber fraud, and terrorism.

   ↑ Q5

6. **D.** A Red Corner Notice asks law enforcement worldwide to provisionally arrest a wanted person pending extradition. It requires both a court arrest warrant and dual criminality to be issued. ↑ Q6

Quick-check answers

1. **False.** ↑ 1
2. **True.** ↑ 2
3. **False.** ↑ 3

4. **True.** ↑ 4

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