

Red Corner Notice of Interpol

October 13, 2022

In news– The Interpol has rejected a request by India to issue a Red Corner Notice against Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, the Khalistan separatist.

Key updates-

- Gurpatwant Singh is the Canada-based founder and legal advisor of the pro-Khalistan outfit Sikhs for Justice (SFJ).
- The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has listed him as a “terrorist” under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).
- The Interpol has said India has failed to provide sufficient information to support its case, and that the UAPA has been criticised for being “misused” to target minority groups and human rights activists without “respecting” their right to due process and a fair trial.

What is a Red Notice?

- Criminals or suspects often flee to other countries to evade facing justice. A Red Corner Notice, or **Red Notice (RN) alerts police forces across the world about fugitives who are wanted internationally.**
- As per Interpol, Red Notices are issued for fugitives wanted either for prosecution or to serve a sentence. A Red Notice is a request to law enforcement worldwide to locate and provisionally arrest a person pending extradition, surrender, or similar legal action.
- RNs **contain information that helps identify wanted persons, such as their names, dates of birth, nationality, and physical attributes** such as the colour of their hair and eyes, as well as pictures and biometric data such as fingerprints, if they are available.

RNs also mention the crime(s) they are wanted for.

- It is **published by Interpol at the request of a member country**. The fugitives may be wanted for prosecution or to serve a sentence.
- **The country issuing the request need not be the home country of the fugitive**; Interpol acts on the request of a country where the alleged crime has been committed.
- The number of valid RNs which are not public is several times more. These **RNs are restricted for use by law enforcement authorities only**.
- An RN is published on Interpol's website only in cases where the help of the public is needed to locate an individual, or if those individuals pose a threat to public safety.
- Among the **most popular Indians on this list are jeweller Mehul Choksi and diamantaire Nirav Modi**.
- An **RN is only an international wanted persons' notice; it is not an international arrest warrant**.
- Interpol itself does not want individuals; they are **wanted by a country or an international tribunal**.
- This means the Interpol cannot compel law enforcement authorities in any country to arrest the subject of an RN.
- **It is up to individual member countries to decide what legal value to give to an RN**, and the authority of their national law enforcement officers to make arrests.
- The Interpol says that an **RN must comply with its constitution and rules**. It further says that every Red Notice request is checked by a specialised task force to ensure it is compliant with (Interpol) rules.
- **The Interpol argues that an RN is issued only after a competent court has taken cognisance of a chargesheet against the fugitive**.

Types of notices issued by Interpol-

TYPES OF INTERPOL NOTICES



RED NOTICE: To seek the location and arrest of wanted persons with a view to extradition or similar lawful action.



YELLOW NOTICE: To help locate missing persons, often minors, or to help identify persons who are unable to identify themselves.



BLUE NOTICE: To collect additional information about a person's identity, location or activities in relation to a crime.



BLACK NOTICE: To seek information on unidentified bodies.



GREEN NOTICE: To provide warnings and intelligence about persons who have committed criminal offences and are likely to repeat these crimes in other countries.



ORANGE NOTICE: To warn of an event, a person, an object or a process representing a serious and imminent threat to public safety.



INTERPOL-UN SECURITY COUNCIL SPECIAL NOTICE: Issued for groups and individuals who are the targets of UN Security Council sanctions committees.



PURPLE NOTICE: To seek or provide information on modus operandi, objects, devices and concealment methods used by criminals.

Source: www.interpol.int

NATION GRAPHICS

About Interpol-

- **The Interpol, or International Criminal Police Organization,** is an inter-governmental organisation comprising **195 member countries,** which helps police forces in all these countries to better coordinate their actions.
- The organisation **enables member countries to share and access data on crimes and criminals,** and offers a range of technical and operational support.
- The **Interpol general secretariat coordinates the organisation's day-to-day activities.**
- **It is run by a secretary general** (currently Jurgen Stock of Germany, who has been Interpol's chief executive since 2014), **with its headquarters in Lyon, France,** with **a global complex for innovation in Singapore,** and several satellite offices in different regions.
- Interpol **has a National Central Bureau (NCB) in each**

member country, which is the central point of contact for both the general secretariat and the other NCBs around the world.

- **Each NCB is run by police officials of that country,** and usually sits in the government ministry responsible for policing. **(Home Ministry in India.)**
- **Interpol manages 19 police databases** with information on crimes and criminals (from names and fingerprints to stolen passports), accessible in real-time to countries.
- It also **offers investigative support such as forensics, analysis,** and assistance in locating fugitives around the world.