

the total volume of smuggling into the country. There is no reliable means of finding out the volume of such smuggling; as such it is not practicable usefully to undertake any such investigation.

Shri Damani: May I know what are the main items of articles which are smuggled into and out of our country and from which areas it is carried out?

Shri B. B. Bhagat: It is mainly gold which is smuggled. Then there are jewellery, precious stones; there is also some opium. These are the main things that are smuggled into the country.

Shri N. E. Munisamy: May I know whether the Government have conducted any survey as regards the economics of smuggling and whether any steps have been taken to mobilise opinion as regards the evils of smuggling?

Mr. Speaker: If it is uneconomic, there would not be any smuggling at all.

Shri B. B. Bhagat: So far as economics is concerned, the very fact that smuggling is taking place shows that unless it is profitable, it would not take place. Smuggling is an evil.

Shri Raghunath Singh: May I know how this smuggling of gold has affected the gold market of India?

Shri B. B. Bhagat: On the import of gold, it may have some effect and the prices may go down. So far, the indications are, the prices are going up. Smuggling in that way may benefit the smugglers. But, it has not affected very much the economy.

Shri Damani: May I know whether any rough estimate has been made of the extent and volume and if so, what it is, with regard to gold and every article of smuggling?

Mr. Speaker: Another question will be put. Next question.

Oil Rocks in Himachal Pradesh

*774. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1332 on the 30th August, 1957 and state:

(a) whether systematic investigation of oil rocks has been completed in the Mandi area of Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). Systematic geological mapping is in progress near Chaumukha, south of Mandi, and will be continued.

Sports Stadium at Gauhati

*775. **Shri Basumatari:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request has been received from the Government of Assam for aid or subsidy for the construction of a Sports Stadium at Gauhati; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Shri Basumatari: May I know what is the amount estimated and prayed for?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: They have submitted several schemes, one covering badminton courts: Rs. 55,600; one for a stadium at Gauhati: Rs. 1,88,650; another, a sportsmen guest house. A number of proposals they have sent.

Shri Basumatari: May I know whether they have started the work or not?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: I understand that some work has already been started.