

**Smuggling**

\*1139. **Shri Damani:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a noticeable change in the pattern of smuggling operations across the country's land border;

(b) if so, the nature thereof; and

(c) how far the smuggling operations have affected the internal price of gold during the previous twelve months?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha):** (a) and (b). There is no set pattern of smuggling activities across the country's land borders. The smugglers change their *modus operandi* and the nature of smuggled articles according to circumstances.

(c) The decrease in the smuggling of gold into the country is, it is believed, one of the important factors responsible for the rise in internal prices of gold since October, 1958.

**Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes**

\*1140. { **Shri Vasudevan Nair:**  
**Shri Warlor:**  
**Shri Punnoose:**  
**Shri Ramam:**  
**Shri Nagi Reddy:**  
**Shri V. P. Nayar:**

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commissioner of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has visited Kerala State very recently;

(b) whether the Government of India have come across certain statements criticizing the previous Kerala Government that the Commissioner issued while he was in Kerala; and

(c) whether the Commissioner has submitted any reports to the Government of India on his visit to Kerala?

**The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G. B. Pant):** (a) The Commissioner last visited Kerala State from 16th to 23rd October, 1959.

(b) The Government of India have seen some press reports regarding the administration of welfare schemes for backward classes in Kerala, but have not seen any statement issued by the Commissioner. In fact the Commissioner has reported that he did not issue any such statement.

(c) He has submitted his usual tour notes for visits to several States including Kerala.

**Working of Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act**

\*1141. { **Shrimati Ila**  
**Falchoudhuri:**  
**Shrimati Renu**  
**Chakravarty:**

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the working of the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956, since it was enforced on the 1st May, 1958;

(b) whether any suggestions have been received from the State Governments and Union Territories for making the working of the Act more effective;

(c) if so, the suggestions received in brief; and

(d) the reaction of the Government of India thereto?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva):** (a) Rules for carrying out the purposes of the Act have been made by eleven State Governments and all Union territories. 72 Protective Homes are reported to have been started so far, and Special Police Officers for dealing with offences under the Act have been appointed by the Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Bombay, Kerala, Madras, Mysore, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal and the Administrations of Delhi and Himachal Pradesh.