

(e) and (f). In the matter of recruitment of staff, Government of India guidelines are being followed.

Seizure of Gold at Indira Gandhi International Airport

*332. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large quantity of gold biscuits concealed in the dry ice compartment of food-trolley were seized from a Frankfurt-Delhi Lufthansa flight at Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi on July 8, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount of gold seized at Indira Gandhi International Airport during each of the last three years and the value thereof;

(d) the details of the persons arrested in this regard; and

(e) the present status of the prosecutions launched against them?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (e). The Customs authorities at the Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi seized 184 gold biscuits weighing 21.45 Kgs. valued at Rs. 1.09 crores found concealed in the dry ice compartment of two food trollies of Lufthansa airlines flight LH 760 which arrived on 9.7.1996 from Frankfurt. Investigations have revealed that seized gold was attempted to be smuggled by two passengers in collusion with four staff members of a flight catering unit. All the accused persons have been arrested.

The details of seizure of gold and the number of persons arrested at the Indira Gandhi International Airport during the last three years are as follows :

Year	Quantity (In Kgs)	Value (Rs. in Lakhs)	No. of Persons Arrested
1993-94	64.459	287.45	33
1994-95	54.619	255.11	25
1995-96	105.830	512.60	27
1996-97 (upto 30.6.96)	30.000	158.88	4

The details of persons prosecuted in connection with smuggling of gold through the Indira Gandhi

International Airport and status of prosecution are as follows :

Year	No. of Persons Prosecuted	Status of Prosecution		
		Evidence Stage	Decided	Absco- nding
1993-94	34	28	5	1
1994-95	19	15	3	1
1995-96	27	27	-	-
1996-97 (upto 30.6.96)	3	3	-	-

[Translation]

Foreign Investment by NRIs

*333. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :
SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the value of foreign investment made by the non-resident Indians during each of the last three years; and

(b) the details of the investments made in the backward areas out of the above investment?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) The investment proposals from the Non-Resident Indians approved during the last three years are as under :

(Rs. in Crores)		
1993	1994	1995
3249.92	5123.41	6416.06

(b) Details of investments made by the NRIs in backward areas are not centrally maintained.

[English]

Deposits Attracting Scheme of Banks

*334. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Bank of India or any other public sector bank propose to evolve a scheme to compete with the non-banking financial companies in the matter of attracting deposits;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the functioning of non-banking financial companies are affecting adversely the functioning of nationalised banks; and

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof and the corrective measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The size as well as the diversity of functions of SBI and other public sector banks make them non-comparable with NBFCs and hence NBFCs do not pose a very major challenge to SBI/other public sector banks. Depositors who patronise banks do so for many reasons including security of deposits, package of services offered like remittances and collection of cheques and other investments, safe custody facilities etc, which are not offered by the NBFCs.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Reward Money

*335. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the reward amount for the persons helping in the arrest of smuggling of narcotics; and

(b) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Incentives for Promotion of Exports

*336. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have worked out a package of incentives for promotion of exports during the last three years, if so, results achieved thereunder, year-wise and industry-wise;

(b) the new strategy of Government to give further impetus to boosting of exports and the details thereof alongwith the projections for the current year and next two years;

(c) whether the Government propose to introduce suitable changes in the legal framework of the country to bring it on international standard to facilitate promotion of international trade;

(d) if so, the details of changes proposed;

(e) whether the Government have received complaints regarding serious misuse of incentives provided for exports;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the action taken against the fraudulent parties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (g). Efforts to promote Exports is a continuous process which is reviewed from time to time based on, *inter alia*, inter-action with trade and industry. The incentive schemes for export promotion include duty free/concessional duty import of inputs required for export production, duty drawback facility, refund of terminal excise duty, tax concessions on export profits, concessional export credit and Exchange Earners Foreign Currency (EEFC) account scheme. Results achieved are reflected in the sustained annual growth of exports between 18% to 21% in dollar terms over the last three years, resulting in exports during 1995-96 of US \$ 31.83 Billion compared to exports of US \$ 18.4 Billion in 1992-93.

2. Sectors which have recorded significant export growth include engineering goods, electronics, computer software, chemicals and related products, gem and jewellery, textiles etc. Data on yearwise and industry-wise results is contained in the publications of Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics on Trade Statistics which are available in the Parliament Library.
3. Exports are being accorded national priority so as to sustain an annual growth rate of 20% during the 9th plan period. The new initiatives taken in this regard include the setting up of the India Brand Promotion Equity Fund and operationalisation of the Crucial Investment Balancing Scheme. The long term Export Policy for the 9th Five Year Plan will also be formulated to achieve the projected growth in exports. Efforts are also being made to involve State Governments in export promotion.
4. Government is continuously monitoring developments in international trade with a view to meeting the international standards including on matters related to the legal framework.
5. Some complaints have been received alleging general misuse of the Value Based Advance Licensing Scheme relating to non-existence of applicant firms, over invoicing and misdeclaration. Action has been initiated under the provisions of the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992 to deal with such cases. Investigations however, have so far not revealed any large scale violation of the incentive schemes under the policy. The schemes are also constantly monitored with a view to identifying anomalies during its implemented and for making amendments wherever necessary.