

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these banks have submitted a statement for the consideration of the Government; and

(d) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Loans to Educated Unemployed Youth

1801. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the amount of loans given under the scheme for providing Self-Employment to Educated Unemployed Youth;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The scheme for providing Self Employment to the Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY) is administered by Development Commissioner, Small Scale Industries in the Ministry of Industry. After identification of the beneficiaries and subject to their projects being founds feasible/viable by DIC Task Force, banks provide to each entrepreneur a composite loan not exceeding Rs. 35,000/- for industrial ventures, Rs. 25,000/- for service ventures and Rs. 15,000/- for small business ventures. The operational details of the scheme like target group, size of target, coverage, size of loan and subsidy etc., remain under

review and evaluation by the Government in consultation with Reserve Bank of India.

[English]

Gold Smuggling

1802. SHRI SHRABAN KUMAR PATEL:
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether gold smuggling is increasing;

(b) the number of gold smuggling cases detected and the value of gold seized during the last two years;

(c) the number of cases in which prosecution has been launched/settled/pending;

(d) the number of cases in which fine was imposed or jail sentences were awarded during the above period;

(e) whether the withdrawal of Gold Control Order is one of the reasons for increase in smuggling of gold; and

(f) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (d). Available reports and the seizures made indicate that gold continues to be sensitive to smuggling into the country. However, since smuggling is a clandestine activity, it is not possible to say whether the instances of gold smuggling are increasing. The quantity and value of gold seized during the last 2 years are given below:-

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Value of gold seized (Rs. in crores)</i> | <i>Quantity of gold (Metric Tonnes)</i> |
|-------------|---|---|
| 1990 | 192.96 | 5.72 |
| 1991 | 187.00 | 4.93 |

The number of cases booked and the number of persons who have been prosecuted/convicted/acquitted under the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962 during the last 2 years and the number of prosecutions pending at the end of 1991 are given below. However, the figures in respect of gold cases alone are not maintained separately.

| <i>Yes</i> | <i>No. of cases booked</i> | <i>No. of persons prosecuted</i> | <i>No. of persons convicted</i> | <i>No. of persons acquitted</i> | <i>No. of prosecutions pending</i> |
|------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1990 | 73279 | 2268 | 555 | 141 | - |
| 1991* | 59224 | 1640 | 585 | 146 | 6237 |

*Figures are provisional.

(e) and (f). Gold has been traditionally sensitive to smuggling into the country due to various factors such as gap between domestic demand and supply and because of the difference between low international prices and higher domestic prices. Smuggling is a clandestine activity and it is not possible to say whether it has increased/decreased due to repeal of the Gold Control Act or otherwise. The provisions of the repealed Gold control Act were regulating only the domestic gold trade.

Seizure of Gold at I.G.I. Airport, Delhi

1803. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:
SHRI RAM BADAN:
KUMARI UMABHARTI:
SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of gold seized by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and other enforcement agencies during January, 1992 in Delhi;

(b) whether the DRI officials seized 58 kg. of gold worth about rupees 30 crore kept in a consignment at the Indra Gandhi International Airport, Delhi on January 25, 1992;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any investigation in the matter has been made;

(e) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;

(f) the number of such cases which came to light where goods were imported in the name of diplomats during the last three years; and

(g) the action taken against the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) 87.179 kgs. of gold valued at Rs 4.22 crores approximately has been seized by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and other enforcement agencies during January, 1991 in Delhi.