up tourist villages in various States during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the number of tourist villages proposed to be set up in each State and the details of the assistance proposed to be provided by the Union Government to State Governments for the development of tourism facility in these villages ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) During the Seventh Five Year Plan period, the Department of Tourism has no provision for construction of Tourist Villages.

During the Sixth Five Year Plan, however, the Department had provided financial assistance for the construction of one Tourist Village at Shivpuri (Madhya Pradesh), which is now nearing completion during the current Plan period,

[English]

Sale of confiscated goods by Customs Department

3723. SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Customs department is selling confiscated goods through a number of agencies and not directly to consumers co-operative societies in Bombay;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether Government are aware that due to present policy they are losing 4.5 per cent of value of goods confiscated; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the names of the agencies etc. at Bombay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANA-RDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (b) The approved mode of disposal of confiscated consumers goods is by direct sale to National Co-operative Consumers Federation of India Limited (NCCF) (which in turn, disposes them through different outlets which include Super Bazars, State Civil Supplies Corporation, State Co-operative Federations, Cooperative Societies approved by Central and State Governments & duly registered under the Co-operative Societies Act, military and para-military canteens and through direct sale to public through the retail outlets maintained by the Customs Department.

(c) and (d) As per the terms and conditions of sale of confiscated consumer goods, discount of 14.5% is allowed on the fair prices fixed by the Pricing Committee to NCCF and 10% to other authorised lifting agencies to cover their overheads.

Confiscated goods are sold to the following agencies at Bombay :-

- (i) National Consumers Co-operative Federations;
- (ii) Individual Consumer Co-operative Societies registered under Co-operative Societies Act;
- (iii) Military and Para-military canteens;
- (iv) Direct sale to public through Customs retail counters.

Recovery of gold biscults from hotel rooms in Delhi

3724. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Hindustan Times of 21 February, 1986 wherein it has been stated that 99 gold biscuits weighing 11.6 Kg. and valued at Rs. 24.36 lakhs have been recovered from two hotel rooms in Delhi on 20 February, 1986;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether any arrests have been made; and

(d) the action being taken against the culprits ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (b): Yes, Sir. Facts of the case are as follows:

On 19th February, 1986, the officers of Customs Collectorate, Delhi, recovered and seized foreign marked gold weighing 11.5 Kgs. valued at Rs. 23.03 lakhs from a hotel and private guest house premises in Paharganj, New Delhi-55. The gold was found concealed in two steel rollers and three polyethene packets of of wet dates. In addition, Indian currency of Rs. 4,070/-, foreign currency 150 U.S. Dollars, 105 U.A.E. Dirhams and one Saudi Arabian Riyal, miscellaneous goods along with incriminating documents were seized.

(c) and (d) In this connection, four persons were arrested and remanded to judicial custody. On completion of investigation, appropriate action for departmental adjudication and launcing of prosecution in a Court of law would be taken.

D.A. to Central Government Employees

3725. SHRI V. S. VIJAYA-RAGHAVAN : Will be Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government employees drawing a basic salary of Rs. 1000 and above do not get dearness allowance when one instalment of it is released and they get it only when two instalments are released;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to pay the D.A. instalments to all categories of employees whenever those are released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) According to the existing dearness allowance scheme as recommended by the Third Pay Commission and further improved by the Government of India, Central Government employees in various pay ranges are covered in a cycle of three instalments of 8 points each in the average CPI as under :

- (i) The first instalment on an increase of 8 points in a cycle of three instalments is payable upto pay of Rs. 1000 per month.
- (ii) Employees getting pay above Rs. 1000 and upto Rs. 1600 per month are paid D.A. when there is an increase of 16 points in a cycle of three instalments of CPI. The employees getting pay above Rs. 1000 and upto Rs. 1600 get cumulative effect of both the instalments with effect from the date of due of the second instalment.
- (iii) The employees getting pay above Rs. 1600 per month and upto Rs. 2750 are paid D.A. when there is an increase of 24 points in a cycle of three instalments of average CPI. These employees get cumulative effect of all the three instalments with effect from the date of due of the Third instalment.
- (iv) Employees getting pay above Rs. 2750 per month are granted dearness allowance at the rate of Rs. 150/- per month when there is an increase of 24 points in the cycle of three instalments of average CPI.

(c) There is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government of India.

Stabilization of exchange rate market

3726. DR. K.G. ADIYODI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any change effected during 1985-86 by International Monetary Fund to stabilise exchange rate market as the economic recovery of other countries are not at par with US dollar; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by India to stabilise the economy in