

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been heavy exports of frogs over past several years affecting ecology and leading to increased use of insecticides in crops such as paddy;

(b) whether ecologists in West Germany had launched a movement to stop imports of frogs from India in order to protect India's ecological balance and needs;

(c) whether matter of such national concern was discussed at the higher level to find a balance in overall interest; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) The export of Froglegs is permitted subject to certain regulations prescribed keeping ecological considerations in view. Those exports of the order of Rs. 7.77 crores in 1984-85.

(b) to (d). During the last year, ecologists in certain foreign countries including West Germany urged for a ban on export of froglegs. The whole matter regarding the policy on export of froglegs was reviewed and it is not proposed to ban such exports. However, the regulations for such exports have been made stricter in respect of catching and processing of frogs and ceiling on total exports in order to prevent indiscriminate catching which might affect the frog population.

Smuggling of Uranium to China and Pakistan

2853. SHRI YOGESHWAR PRASAD YOGESH :
PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that uranium is being regularly smuggled out to China and Pakistan *via* Nepal from Jaduguda Uranium Mine located in Singhbhum District of Bihar;

(b) if so, whether the smuggling is going on for a number of years;

(c) whether Government have taken any steps to stop the smuggling of Uranium and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether any arrests have been made ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Strict security measures exist against any pilferage of uranium from the mine and mill complex. The drive against smuggling activities in general has been intensified and appropriate remedial measures are taken in close co-ordination with the concerned Central and State Government authorities.

(d) Does not arise.

Smuggling by Bangladeshi Infiltrators

2854. SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Bangladeshi infiltrators are indulging in large scale smuggling across the border;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to repatriate these infiltrators back to Bangladesh and stop smuggling across the border ;

(c) whether Government have caught these people red handed; and

(d) the action propose to be taken in such cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (c). Reports received by the Government do not indicate that Bangladeshi infiltrators are indulging in large scale smuggling across Indo-Bangladesh border.

However, customs authorities have effected seizure of contrabands valued at Rs. 3.27 crores during 1985 upto October and arrested 308 persons in this connection, as against Rs. 2.56 crores worth of goods seized and 208 persons arrested during the whole of 1984.