

139.58 lakhs and 1607 applications have been returned/rejected. The banks have been advised to sanction and disburse loans expeditiously and the progress is also being reviewed periodically.

Evasion of customs duties

65. SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of cases which came to light during 1985 involving huge amounts of evasion of customs duties;

(b) the estimated losses of revenues to the exchequer from those cases;

(c) whether there is a proposal to set up a separate body to deal expeditiously with the customs cases; and

(d) if so, the details of its constitution and when it will come into existence ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) It is proposed to set up a Tribunal to decide Customs and Central Excise matters, including valuation disputes, to replace the existing jurisdiction of the High Courts in these matters. The details of its constitution and the date from which it will come into existence are yet to be finalised.

Raids on premises of drug peddlers and smugglers

66. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that country-wide raids were conducted by Government under 'Operation Kal-Bhairav' on the premises of drug peddlers and smugglers in the country; and

(b) if so, the results achieved stating the number of arrests, if any, made in this connection, *the modus operandi* of the persons involved in the racket and their links within and outside the country and the action taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) The one-day operation, code-named, 'KAL BHAIRAV' and conducted on 23.12.1985, covered 135 places in 11 States and 2 Union Territories. The following seizures were effected as a result of the operation :—

Sl. No.	Name of drug	Quantity seized
1.	Heroin/Brown Sugar	85.83 kg.
2.	Charas	59.13 kg.
3.	Opium	30.00 kg.
4.	Cocaine	4.20 kg.
5.	Ganja	15.70 metric tonne
6.	Mescaline	0.243 kg.
7.	Diazepam	10.500 capsules

The total number of persons arrested/detained, including those taken for interrogation, was 40.

As the searches were organised against the drug-traffickers and suspected storage and distribution points of drugs, their links within and outside the country could not be precisely established. However, the seizures clearly establish considerable increase in the smuggling of ganja across Indo-Nepal border.

The field formations remain vigilant in the matter. In addition, appropriate anti-smuggling measures are being taken in co-ordination with Central and State authorities concerned. The intelligence machinery has been geared up. Repeated co-ordinated operations like 'KAL BHAIRAV' will, no doubt, unearth the internal and foreign links of the drug traffickers in course of time.