

2. As a result of the operation, the vessel MV Attair which had called at Bombay on 27th June, 1985, was detained in Cochin and 40 containers suspected of containing goods for South Africa detained. Of these 21 containers were permitted for re-export while remaining 19 destuffed and their contents seized under the Customs Act.

3. On completion of investigation, Collector of Customs, Cochin issued Show Cause Notices to 40 parties. Since then 37 cases have been adjudicated.

5. Details of the seizures are as follows :—

- (a) Cases of 15 exporters—Good totally valued Rs. 11,13,530/- confiscated absolutely.
- (b) Cases of 18 exporters—Good totally valued at Rs. 39,23,362/- confiscated but allowed redemption on payment of fine.
- (c) Cases of 4 parties viz. the owner of the vessel, Agents and at Cochin and Shri Taro B. Vazirani, Director of M/s. Arbee Shipping Co. adjudicated.
- (d) Total redemption fine imposed on the goods and vessel and containers Rs. 13,82,500/-.
- (e) Total amount of personal penalty imposed Rs. 10,98,000/-.
- (f) So far total redemption fine paid Rs. 93,000/- and personal penalty paid Rs. 75,000/-.
- (g) In 3 cases of Appeals decided by the Madras Branch of CEGAT confiscation of the goods upheld, but relief given only on personal penalty.

Cattle Lifting from India

6325. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cattle lifted from India to Bangladesh during 1985 and 1986 ; and

(b) the steps Government have taken to stop cattle lifting from India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The BSF who are guarding the Indo-Bangladesh border have intimated that 1369 cattle heads during 1985 and 1939 cattle heads during 1986 were reported to be stolen from India to Bangladesh. Out of these, 629 cattle heads were recovered during 1985 and 536 during 1986.

(b) The BSF on Indo-Bangladesh border is on constant vigil. List of criminals adjacent to the border is maintained at border out-post level by BSF and efforts are co-ordinated by holding regular meetings with the local police for detection of such criminals in the border areas. The strength of BSF is also being increased on Indo-Bangladesh border in a 5 year expansion programme.

Corruption Cases Registered Against Passport Offices

6326. SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of corruption in passport offices registered all over the country during the year 1986 ;

(b) the number of cases of corruption in passport offices reported in the office of the Regional Passport Officer in Gujarat ; and

(c) number of officers suspended or detained for indulging in corruption in Gujarat ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Some cases of alleged malpractices, etc. were registered by police authorities during 1986 against a few employees of the following passport offices ;

i) Passport Office, Chandigarh.

- ii) Passport Office, Delhi.
- iii) Passport Office, Bangalore.

(b) While the Government has received some complaints about a few alleged malpractices existing in Regional Passport Office Ahmedabad which have already been investigated, no case of corrupt practices has been registered by the Police authorities against any employee of that office.

- (c) None.

**Price of Per Cup Coffee Sold by
Coffee Board**

6327. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coffee Board Bangalore has enhanced the price of per cup coffee from 0-45 paise to 0-90 paise sold in the van of Coffee Board in Bangalore City ;

(b) if so the reasons for such enhancement ;

(c) whether Government are aware that the average sale has come down considerably due to price revision ; and

(d) whether reduction in the price of per cup coffee is under consideration ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) to (d) The price of liquid coffee which was fixed in 1981 had not been revised for the last six years. The revision in February, 1987 in the price per cup from 45 paise to 90 paise was on account of various factors such as revisions of MRP during the period 1981 to December, 1986, increase in the cost of various inputs such as sugar and milk and increase in salaries and overheads on account of revision in pay scales and allowances. The revision had, therefore, to be made more so, in view of the fact that the Public Accounts Committee had also recommended that the Coffee Houses should work on a no profit no loss basis. Though the sale of coffee cups has come down as a sequel to the price revision yet it is expected to pick up when the public is satisfied that the hike is not abnormal as compared to the prices prevalent in various hotels in Bangalore.

[Translation]

**Handloom Technology Training
Institute for Madhya Pradesh**

6328. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Government has submitted any proposal to the Ministry for setting up Handloom Technology Training Institute ; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the reaction of the Ministry thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Talking into account the number of handlooms in the State of Madhya Pradesh as compared to other States, setting up of an Institute of Handloom Technology in Madhya Pradesh by the Central Government is not a priority item during the Seventh Plan. However, the number of seats provided to the candidates of Madhya Pradesh in the Indian Institute of Handloom Technology, Varanasi has been increased from three to six last year.

[English]

Trade fairs organised in South India

6329. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of trade fairs organised by the Trade Fair Authority of India (TFAI) during last three years and the venues of such fairs ;

(b) the number of fairs organised in the Southern States, if not, the reasons therefor ;

(c) the details of items of handloom and handicrafts exported from Andhra Pradesh through the trade fairs ; and

(d) the reasons for not encouraging Andhra Pradesh handlooms and handicrafts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) and (b) A Statement is given below.

(c) and (d) State-wise export statistics are not maintained.