

**Rewards to Informants of Violation of Foreign Exchange Regulations**

**2674. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether informants about foreign exchange defrauders and income-tax evaders are being harassed by way of delayed payment of their rewards or in various other ways;

(b) whether it is a fact that the business houses in collusion with some officers of the Department dealing with these matters want to starve out these informants by putting forward dilatory excuses instead of utilising every rule that permits expeditious payment of rewards and to the highest permissible limits; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the Customs Rules permit payment of 25 per cent of the total value of goods seized as advance?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri):** (a) No, Sir. There is no avoidable delay in the payment of rewards to informants about foreign exchange defrauders and income-tax evaders.

(b) No, Sir. On the contrary every effort is made to see that rewards are sanctioned as expeditiously as possible. If there is a likelihood of delay in sanctioning of final rewards due to time taken in adjudication appeal etc. and the informant has rendered valuable service, provisional payments of advance rewards are made under the rules and orders on the subject.

(c) As per customs Rules, the total rewards in a case shall not exceed half of the realised value of the confiscated goods. According to the normal practice, however, the final rewards paid to the informants do not usually exceed 10 per cent of the value of the goods. As regards advance rewards, 50 per cent of the expected final reward may be sanctioned as advance reward in respect of seizures of gold with foreign markings soon after the seizure and without waiting for adjudication proceedings. In respect of seizures of other goods,

25 per cent of the expected final reward can be sanctioned as advance reward provided the Government are reasonably satisfied as to the ultimate liability of the seized goods to confiscation.

**Hydel Potential of Himachal Pradesh**

**2675. Shri P. R. Chakraverti:**  
**Shri H. C. Linga Reddy :**  
**Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:**

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have instructed the Himachal Pradesh Government to propose a Master Plan on the line of the Sutlej Master Plan to harness the hydel potential of the river Ravi;

(b) whether steps have been taken to make investigation into the hydel potential of the river near Jammu border; and

(c) the other projects which have been recommended for Himachal Pradesh?

**The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed):** (a) Yes.

The Minister of State for Irrigation and Power had inspected hydel project sites in the Chamba District of Himachal Pradesh in June, 1966, and suggested the formulation of a Plan for development of the hydel potentialities of the River Ravi in its rapid stretch near Chamba.

(b) Necessary estimates for undertaking investigation of hydel sites are under preparation.

(c) The investigation on the following projects have been recommended:—

- (1) Giri Hydro-electric Project;
- (2) Suil Hydro-electric Project; and
- (3) Upper Sutlej Dam Project.

**Incidence of V.D. Among Poona Students**

**2676. Shri A. N. Vidyalkar:** Will the Minister of Health and Family Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a recent Medical survey of about 10,000 students in the Poona district has disclosed that the incidence of Venereal Diseases among the students was nearly as high as in the adult population;