

desirable to disclose further details.

(d) and (e) The Directors General of Military Operations of India and Pakistan have been in weekly telephonic contact with each other. The need to prevent escalation in the level of firing and tension along the border has been emphasised by both sides.

(f) to (h) No civilian on our side was killed in the Poonch Sector during July, 1991, in the incidents of exchange of fire.

[*Translation*]

**Persons Arrested in Connection with
Drugs Smuggling**

4279. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :
SHRI C. P. MUDALAGI-RIYAPPA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons arrested while smuggling the drugs across the border during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the action taken against those persons ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) :

(a) The number of persons arrested while smuggling narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances across the border during the last three years is as given below :

Year	Number of persons arrested
1988	244
1989	100
1990	46

(b) In all these cases action under

the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 was taken for investigation and prosecution.

[*English*]

Securities and Exchange Board

4280. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Securities and Exchange Board of India is regularly receiving complaints against several leading companies;

(b) if so, the number of such companies; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take against such companies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) :

(a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has been receiving complaints against companies including several leading companies. SEBI is receiving complaints against over 700 companies per month since the past 4 to 5 months.

(c) The Companies Act, 1956, contains provisions for safeguarding the interest of the investors against erring companies. Action is taken against companies in appropriate cases under the provisions of this Act.

Theft of Import/Export Consignments

4281. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether export and import consignments of various chemicals are being stolen at Bombay Port;

(b) if so, the specific items that are being stolen;

(c) whether the Government have arrested some culprits in this regard; and

(d) the steps being taken to curb such thefts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. There are few cases of theft involving the following items :—

- (i) Bethabuthol/Nepthol/Aromine Chemical Powders, (ii) Sodium Hydrosulphate, (iii) Ampiciline/Amoxiciline Tryhydrate, (iv) Chloropromazine Hydrochloride, (v) Sulphomethaxazole, (vi) Thiofiline Unhydriss BP-18.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) A number of steps have been taken including (i) Intensive patrolling in the docks and outlying container areas by Police and Security personnel, (ii) As far as possible, nominated route movement for container traffic from docks to container yards, (iii) Monitoring of road vehicle's movement carrying containers, (iv) Escorting of containers with valuable chemicals when carried during night, and (v) Storage of chemicals in the shed inside the lock fast.

International Narcotics Control Strategy

4282. SHRI MUKUL BAL-KRISHNA WASNIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the US State Department

report of March, 1991 on "International Narcotics Control Strategy" wherein it has been stated that the India is the largest producer of opium in the world for pharmaceutical uses but despite announced intentions by the Government to increase control and monitoring, the diversion of its illicit opium and unlicensed cultivation is growing;

(b) whether the counter narcotics efforts have suffered from a lack of adequate resources, effective policy co-ordination and vigorous implementation; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) to (c) The Government of India are aware of the U.S. State Department report of March, 1991 on "International Narcotics Control Strategy". Government of India does not agree with some of the observations made in the report regarding diversion from licit opium and illicit cultivation of opium poppy. The elaborate system of controls perfected by the Government of India over a long period of time was adopted as a model by the International Community for formulating Article 23 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961. The United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control delegation which visited India in October, 1986 commended the strict control exercised over cultivation and storage of opium in India. One of the largest buyers of opium from India in USA conducted a survey of opium production and security in India during February-March, 1991 and has brought out a booklet in April, 1991 based on that survey, commending