

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Heroin	26	999.61	30
4.	Foreign Currency	487	1013.08	65
5.	Fire Arms	5	3.28	Nil
Total		1102	2932.62	166

Action taken against the persons arrested

The persons arrested were produced before the designated Magistrate and were either remanded to judicial custody, or were enlarged on bail, in some cases. Adjudication proceedings under Customs Acts, 1962 are also being initiated against the persons arrested in connection with smuggling of gold/silver/foreign currency. The persons arrested in connection with smuggling of heroin will be prosecuted under the provision of NDPS Act, 1985.

Listed/Unlisted Equity Shares

1562. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the aggregate cost of unlisted equity shares/convertible debentures purchased by Unit Trust of India and ICICI, separately, during April 1, 1992 to March 31, 1996;

(b) the aggregate cost of listed equity shares/convertible debentures purchased through private placement or bought-out deals by UTI and ICICI, separately, during the above period; and

(c) the aggregate dividend received by these companies, separately, during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINGH) : (a) to (c) UTI have informed that the aggregate cost of various instruments purchased and dividends received by them during 1.7.1992 to 30.6.1996 are as follows:

	(In Rs. crores)
(i) Unlisted equity shares	75.23
(ii) Unlisted convertible debentures	0.00
(iii) Listed equity shares purchased through private placement/bought-out deals	1258.60
(iv) Listed convertible debentures subscribed through private placement/bought-out deals	462.27
(v) Dividend in respect of (i) above	0.10
(vi) Dividend in respect of (iii) above	58.99

ICICI have informed that the aggregate cost of various instruments subscribed to and dividends received by them during 1.4.1992 to 31.3.1996 are as follows:

	(In Rs. crores)
(i) Unlisted equity shares	385.00
(ii) Unlisted convertible debentures	136.77
(iii) Listed equity shares purchased through private placement/bought-out deals	131.75
(iv) Listed convertible debentures subscribed through private placement/bought-out deals	0.00
(v) Dividends in respect of (i) above	4.98
(vi) Dividends in respect of (iii) above	1.12

Export Defaulters

1563. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take any action against the export defaulter for not fulfilling the export obligations so far;

(b) whether the defaulters have demanded one time extension in this regard; and

(c) if so, the loss to the exchequer in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) Such action is taken regularly as per procedures prescribed in the EXIM Policy.

(b) Yes, Sir. In response to this demand, the Government has issued Public Notice No. 7 (RE-98), 1997-2002 dated 24.04.1998 in terms of which one time extension in export obligations period has been allowed upto 30.09.1998 for regularisation of pending advance licences on payment of prescribed composition fee. This facility has been made available only to those licencees who have fulfilled at least 50% of the export obligation.

(c) The question of recovery of customs duty arises only in cases where export obligation is not fulfilled against duty free imports. In the default cases referred to in Part (b) if exporters do not fulfil their export obligation within the extended time allowed to them recovery of customs duty alongwith interest thereon shall be enforced against such defaulters besides imposition of a penalty under the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992 and the rules made thereunder.

[Translation]

Bank Loans to Small Farmers

1564. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :
DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL :

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI:

SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount provided as loan to small farmers by public sector banks during the last three years and the number of farmers benefited therefrom;

(b) whether the Government have issued any instructions to public sector banks regarding fixation of any target amount for providing loans to small farmers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to provide more credit to small farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) The amount of loans disbursed to small and marginal farmers by scheduled commercial banks together with number of agriculture accounts as on the last Friday of June 1994, June 1995 and June 1996 (latest available), as reported by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), is as under :

As on last Friday	No. of A/cs	Amount (Rs. crores)
June 1994	3227442	2487.31 .
June 1995	3550062	3166.25
June 1996	3713138	3953.40

(b) and (c) With a view to ensure timely and adequate flow of credit to Small Farmers (SF) and Marginal Farmers (MF), a number of relaxations have been extended which include, inter-alia, the following:-

- i) Banks should not take margin money for crop loans/ term loans granted to small and marginal farmers upto Rs. 10,000/-;
- ii) Banks should not insist upon collateral security/ third party guarantee for crop loans upto Rs. 25,000/-. Hypothecation of crops can be taken as security;
- iii) Payment of interest should be insisted upon only at the time of repayment of loan instalments fixed;
- iv) Banks should not compound interest on current dues in respect of crop loans and

instalments not falling due in respect of term loans and the interest should be calculated only at annual rests;

v) Total interest debited to the accounts of small and marginal farmers should not exceed the principal amount;

vi) Thrust has been provided by NABARD in extending refinance to the SF/MF. NABARD has been ensuring that not less than 60% of its refinance under schematic lending operations is channelised for financing SF/ MF.

[English]

Amendment in Patent Act, 1970

1565. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY :

SHRI CHANDULAL AJMEERA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approached the World Trade Organisation (WTO) to appoint an arbitrator to gain sometime to amend its patent Act of 1970;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to safeguard and promote the country's fundamental economic rights in international trade and commerce?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) India protects and promotes her economic and commercial interests through bilateral discussions and negotiations with other countries, through diplomatic contacts and through active participation in deliberations in WTO as well as other international fora.

[Translation]

Improvement of Tourist Places

1566. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY :

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the deplorable condition of tourist places in the country;