

(c) The foreign exchange earned during the last 3 years is as follows:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total foreign exchange earned (Rs. in crore)</i>
1987-88	19.01
1988-89	14.65
1989-90	23.45 (Prov)

(d) India is the only producer of opium for export to meet its licit world requirements for medical purposes. It is cultivated in the traditional poppy growing areas in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Indian opium has been facing stiff competition in the international market from the concentrate of poppy straw, an alternate raw material, which has affected our exports and resulted in accumulation of huge stocks. Therefore, the Government have been constrained to reduce the area under poppy cultivation over the years.

[*English*]

News-Item Entitled "Big Haul of Foreign Currencies"

5772. SHRI D. AMAT:
SHRI BANWARI LAL PURO-
HIT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Big haul of foreign currencies" appearing in the "Indian Express" dated 22 March, 1990; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF.

MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Consequent upon searches conducted by the Officers of the Directorate of Enforcement on 20.3.90 at the premises of Shri Praduman Kumar Jain, Delhi, foreign currencies of the value of Rs. 3.65 lakhs and Indian currency amounting to Rs. 3.88 lakhs besides documents were seized. During the course of the search, three persons who visited his business premises were also searched and foreign currencies amounting to Rs. 20,000/- in addition to Indian currency of Rs. 19,260 and some documents were seized from their persons. Shri Praduman Kumar Jain along with Shri Sanjay Kumar Jain, one of the persons who had visited his business premises, were arrested on 21.3.90 and produced before the court who remanded them to judicial custody. Action as warranted under the law has been initiated against the concerned parties.

[*Translation*]

Export of Marble

5773. SHRI GULABCHAND KATARIA:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Udaipur (Rajasthan) has acquired important place in the field of marble production;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to export marble from this area; and

(c) the number of exporters who have been given export facilities by Government and the number of additional applications under the consideration of Government?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Surface deposits of various types of marble are available in