

received, from time to time, from various quarters. The TV coverage in Pithoragarh district is expected to improve with the commissioning of the very low power transmitter under implementation at Munsiri. Further improvement in TV coverage in the district depends upon the availability of resources for the purpose.

Smuggling of foodgrains on Indo-Nepal Border

1588. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaint in regard to the large scale smuggling of foodgrains etc. from Nainital and Pithoragarh districts of Uttar Pradesh into Nepal;

(b) if so, the number of cases of smuggling detected during last one year; and

(c) the further action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) Available reports do not indicate any instances of smuggling of foodgrains from Nainital and Pithoragarh districts of Uttar Pradesh into Nepal in the recent past. However, the Enforcement agencies remain alert against smuggling activities throughout the country including those on the Indo-Nepal border. Close co-ordination is being maintained between all the agencies concerned with the detection and prevention of smuggling.

[English]

Tax Evasion by Tobacco and Drug Companies

1589. SHRI KARIA MUNDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some foreign share holding companies, particularly tobacco and drug companies, have evaded huge Excise duty and other taxes

and opened their office abroad to legalise their black money;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to direct these companies to close their offices abroad to meet shortage of foreign exchange; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Mis-Utilisation of Foreign Exchange Allotted to companies in Delhi

1590. SHRI KARIA MUNDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the foreign exchange allotted to M/s. ITC Ltd., Glaxo Ltd., Asian Paints Ltd. and to 5-Star Hotels in Delhi during the last two years.

(b) whether instances of misutilisation of the foreign exchange by the above companies/hotels have come to the notice of Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) No case of misutilisation of foreign exchange released to the named companies and five star hotels in Delhi has come to the notice of the Enforcement Directorate during the last two years.

Hotels with Foreign Share Holdings

1591. SHRI KARIA MUNDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the names of hotels in India with foreign share holdings;

(b) whether Government propose to fully Indianise such hotel;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) to (d) There are no share holding in hotels as such but in Companies that may own hotels, Foreign hotel chains are allowed equity participation under joint colla-boration agreement with Indian Com-panies with prior approval of Govern-ment of India. There are no proposal to reduce foreign share holdings.

Development of Pilgrimage places in Bihar

1592. SHRI KARIA MUNDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the pilgrimage places in Bihar proposed to be devel-oped during the Eighth Plan period; and

(b) the estimated expenditure and the target fixed to complete the devel-opment work at these places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) and (b) During the first year of Eighth Five Year Plan, the Government of Bihar suggested in-clusion of following pilgrim centres for infrastructural development:— Vaishali, Gaya, Bodh Gaya, Valmiki Nagar, Nalanda and Rajgir.

The State Government has not yet submitted specific proposals.

Cases pending in J&K High Court

1593. SHRI PIYARE LAL HANDOO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending disposal in Jammu and Kashmir High Court as on 1 July, 1990 and their break up into civil original, criminal (Appeals & References) with original, writs (appellate) and Miscellaneous; and

(b) the steps being taken by Go-vernment for the disposal of these cases expeditiously;

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOS-WAMI): (a) The pendency of cases as on 1st July, 1990 in J&K High Court is not available. However, as on 31-12-1989, 42099 cases were pending in Jammu & Kashmir High Court, the break-up of which is as follows:

Civil Original	7971
Criminal (Appeals and References)	1140
Other Main Criminal Cases	1664
Writ Petition	9519
Miscellaneous cases	21805

(b) Various steps like grouping of cases involving common questions of law, constitution of special benches etc. have been taken to reduce pen-dency of cases in the High Courts. A Committee of 3 Chief Justices of High Courts has been constituted by the Government in January, 1989 to study the problem of arrears in Courts and to suggest remedial measure.

Recovery of over payment for export of Frozen Meat

1594. SHRI YADVENDRA DATT: Will the Minister of COM-MERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Go-vernment has been drawn to the ob-servation of the C&AG contained in