

and Stenographers was not due to any inconsistency in the scales of pay but was with a view to set right, in accordance with the prescribed procedure, an anomaly in the scales of pay as recommended by the Fourth Central Pay Commission.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal for setting up the Fifth Central Pay Commission now as it is not considered necessary at this stage.

(d) and (e) A representation has been received in the matter and is under consideration.

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**Increase in Smuggling between Kathmandu and New Delhi**

2765. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether smuggling has increased steeply and at an alarming rate between Kathmandu and New Delhi lately in particular and from other places in general;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any assessment of the revenue loss;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to check the smuggling?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) Since smuggling is a clandestine activity, it is not possible to say whether smuggling has increased steeply and at an alarming rate between Kathmandu and New Delhi lately in particular and from other places in general. However, the value of contraband goods seized by the Customs authorities during the last few years as given in the table below show an increasing trend. This need not necessarily indicate a spurt in smuggling

activities but could be due to more effective anti-smuggling efforts:—

Year	Value (Rs. in crores)
1987	251.47
1988	443.14
1989	554.59
1990	407.91 (Provisional)

(upto 13-08-1990)

(d) The anti-smuggling drive has been intensified and the anti-smuggling machinery particularly at the vulnerable points of the coastline and the land border and the international airports and seaports has been geared up. Close co-ordination is being maintained between all the agencies concerned in the detection and prevention of smuggling. The anti-smuggling agencies have been equipped with vehicles, vessels, fire-arms, X-ray machines, metal detectors and telecommunications wherever considered necessary.

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**Copper Deposits in Balaghat District of Madhya Pradesh**

2766. SHRI KANKAR MUNJARE: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that huge deposits of copper have been found at Budhuda village of Barasivni tehsil in Balaghat district, Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government for its commercial exploitation?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GO-SWAMI): (a) Area near Budhudha village was explored by the Geological Survey of India (GSI) in 1984. No primary copper mineralisation has been found there.

(b) Does not arise.