

not come prepared for this broad question as to how our trade quantities have been influenced.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU. The Commerce Minister requires preparation for this. It does not require any preparation.

MR SPEAKER The question was whether the first round of Indo-Soviet trade talks ended in Moscow recently; if so, the facts thereof, and what would be the total turnover of the trade between the two countries during 1974-75.

SHRI PILOO MODY It is a futile exercise. We ask supplementaries on the replies, not on the questions. That is parliamentary procedure.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU I thought the Minister should know these things.

MR SPEAKER Next question.

Sale of Smuggled Goods

*164. **SHRI RAJDEO SINGH:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the so-called smuggled goods are being sold to consumers through the cooperative stores and other agencies; and

(b) if so, whether this selling of smuggled goods is creating a taste or liking for goods only available through smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE)

(a) Confiscated smuggled goods are sold to consumers through Cooperative Societies and Canteens run by Central and State agencies and also by public auction restricted to actual users and quota holders.

(b) Yes, Sir. This is a possibility. Steps to be taken for dealing with this problem are under examination.

श्री राजदेव सिंह स्मगलिंग के लिए चार फँक्टर जिम्मेदार हैं। एक तो स्मगलर

जो इनबेस्ट भी करते हैं, हमारे उनकी आर्गो-नाइजेशन, तीसरे उनके एजेंट जो माल को बेचते हैं और चौथे कस्टमर या कज्यूमर मेरा कहना यह है कि अगर कज्यूमर न हा तो समगलिंग देश के भीतर नहीं हो सकता है। मेरे सवाल के भाग ख का आप देखें जो इस प्रकार है

"If so, whether this selling of smuggled goods is creating a taste or liking for goods only available through smuggling?"

इसके जवाब में इन्होंने कहा है

"Yes, Sir. This is a possibility. Steps to be taken for dealing with this problem are under consideration."

इन्होंने खुद कबूल किया है कि दिस इज ए पार्सिबिलिटी। इसके माने है कि और भी पार्सिबिलिटीज हैं। मैं जानना चाहना हूँ कि वे कौन-कौन सा पार्सिबिलिटीज हैं।

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE Part (a) of the question is whether the selling of smuggled goods is creating a taste or liking for goods which are smuggled, particularly things like watches, electric gadgets etc. My reply is 'Yes, there is the possibility.' If the hon. member wants to know that other possibilities are there he should put the question.

श्री राजदेव सिंह मेरे प्रश्न का जवाब नहीं आया है। पहले जवाब में इन्होंने कहा है कि दिस इज ए पार्सिबिलिटी। अगर और पार्सिबिलिटीज हैं तो एक दो तीन करके बनाए कि क्या-क्या पार्सिबिलिटीज हैं ?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE Let him put a specific question. To part (a) of the question, I said,

selling of such goods is creating a possibility. I do not know what other possibilities he is referring to.

श्री राजबेब सिंह : इन्होंने साफ कर दिया है कि दिस इज दी प्रोनली पासिबिलिटी । इसका साफ मतलब है कि ये लोगो में टेस्ट क्रियेट कर रहे है । जब तक कंज्यूमर देश के भीतर रहेगे स्मगल्ड गुड्ज का बिकना बन्द नही हो सकता है । आप चन्द लाख रुपये का माल ही महीने में पकड़ते हैं और बेच कर रुपया इकट्ठा करते है जो कि आपका अपना इनवस्टमेंट नही है । आपने कहा है कि आप कंसिडर कर रहे है कि और क्या स्टेप लें । मैं जानना चाहता हू कि क्या आप यह सोचेंगे कि जो स्मगल्ड गुड्ज पकड़ी जाती है उन्हें डिस्ट्राय कर दिया जाए ताकि देश में स्मगल्ड गुड्स के लिए नफरत पैदा हो और लोग इन को न लें ?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: There is no proposal to destroy the confiscated goods. Steps have been taken to dispose of the goods. These are distributed to the National Consumers Cooperatives Federation who in their turn are selling it through the various cooperative societies and other government agencies.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: May I know whether Government would accept the suggestion of selling the confiscated goods only for foreign currency, so that our foreign exchange reserves may be improved?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: This is a good suggestion, but there are certain difficulties. For example, it was considered whether the seized watches could be sold to foreigners in duty free shops in airports, but as these watches did not carry any guarantee, that attempt failed. Anyway, we are exploring various possibilities to find out the best way in which these goods can be disposed of.

SHRI P. GANGADEB: In view of the availability of smuggled goods on a large scale owing to MISA operation, do Government propose to have any formula according to which the prices of these goods will be determined and in what manner the sale money is going to be utilised?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: For fixing the price, we ascertain the market price in those areas where the smuggled goods are sold. When we dispose it of to the cooperative societies, we give a discount of 25 per cent.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: From his reply, are we to conclude that this confiscation and resale of contraband is now being made a legal and respectable operation which previously was illegal? What is there to prevent the multifarious agents of the smugglers themselves from again cornering these goods as customers who come to purchase and reselling them again in the blackmarket? What is the benefit the country is deriving from this confiscation and resale?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: The usual practice is to sell through cooperative societies. When such a complaint comes to us, we stop disposal of the goods to that particular society. For example, a complaint came in respect of one of the cooperative societies in a State that they are diverting a quantum of these goods which they receive from the National Cooperative Federation. Immediately we instructed the National Cooperatives Federation not to dispose of any goods to them. This is a question which will require consideration, namely, in what best way we can dispose of the goods. Otherwise, the only alternative is to destroy them. Whether it is worthwhile destroying goods worth Rs. 40 to 50 crores, is again a question for consideration.

SHRI S. A. KADER: The smuggled goods are being got not because of MISA but because of the vigilance. If they are brought into the market

through cooperative societies or otherwise, it means giving credit to the smuggled things and smugglers are encouraged to smuggle more. My suggestion is, the re-exportable smuggled goods should be re-exported and the remaining could be destroyed. Will he consider this suggestion?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE This was considered earlier. There are some difficulties. Anyway we can consider it.

SHRI BISHWANATH ROY Is it a fact that the seizure of smuggled goods is increasing year by year? If so what is the amount received by government by sale of these goods last year?

MR SPEAKER If he has got the figures he can give them.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE I can give some figures. In 1971-72 the total quantity seized was Rs 2034 lakhs and disposed of Rs 1188 lakhs. In 1973-74 upto August the seizure was Rs 5054 lakhs and sale Rs 352 lakhs.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय हमार देश में विदेशी चीजों में लोगों का जा अधिक लगाव पैदा हुआ है। उस का मूल कारण यह है कि सरकार द्वारा स्वदेशी चीजों का पर्याप्त प्रचार नहीं किया गया है। अगर सरकार द्वारा इस उद्योग का प्रचार किया गया कि स्वदेशी चीजें अच्छी बनती हैं तो विदेशी चीजों में लोगों का लगाव नहीं होगा। क्या यह सही है कि तस्करी का जितना माल आया है वह सरकारी अफसरों की माट-गाठ के बिना नहीं आ सकता है? मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि माल को पकड़ने के साथ-साथ क्या सरकार ने इस बान की भी छान-बीन की है कि वह माल किस किस स्थान से और किस-किसी माध्यम से आया है। यदि हाँ, तो क्या उसने उस सामान के अधिकारियों के क्लिफार्ड कार्डों का उपयोग किया है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय आप कबाल में बहुत आग बढ़ गयी है। श्रीमती देणराज।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय मैंने पूछा है कि स्वदेशी चीजों का इतना प्रचार क्या नहीं किया गया है जिसके कारण विदेशी चीजों के प्रात लगे या आकर्षण बढ़ गया है। मंत्री महोदय इस प्रश्न का उत्तर देने के लिए तैयार है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय वह तो हमेशा तैयार रहते हैं। लेकिन मुझ भाई देखना पड़ता है कि मन्त्रीमन्त्री रनिवेंट है या नहीं।

SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE In order to curb smuggling what other steps the Minister is thinking of? Being a woman I can cite one example. The sarees which we get from the mills the ordinary voiles cost Rs 60. They have to be starched washed and ironed. Instead of that if a woman buys a foreign nylon saree which does not need starching or ironing it costs only, Rs 70. Therefore if the Minister sincerely wants to curb smuggling of foreign goods will he try to bring down the price of local cloth?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE It is a very general question as to how the prices of these goods can be curbed. But I do not know how it will come within the purview of this question. Anyway Government are taking various measures to curb prices.

MR SPEAKER Why do you ask only about sarees and not about turbans?

SHRI VASANT SATHE The Minister would be ignorant of both!

MR SPEAKER I have to pay more than the cost for washing.

श्री मुहम्मद जनीबुर्रहमान : यह बात जाहिर है कि सारे भारत में अनएम्प्लायमेंट का बहुत बड़ा मसला है, खास तौर से पंजे-सिखे तबके में। मेरा इशारा है अनएम्प्लायड ग्रैजुएट्स की तरफ। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार स्मगलिंग गुड्स को सस्ते दामों पर अनएम्प्लायड ग्रैजुएट्स की को-ऑपरेटिव सोसाइटीज को देगी? अगर हाँ, तो क्या इस सिलसिले में कोई सर्कुलर कस्टम्स को भेज दिया गया है और अगर नहीं भेजा गया है, तो वह कब भेजने का इरादा रखता है।

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: These unemployed people can form cooperative societies.

Fraud Cases investigated by Vigilance Officer in respect of State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur

*166. **SHRI D. K. PANDA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases investigated by the Vigilance Officer in respect of frauds, irregularities and disproportionate assets of the officers of State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur during the last three years; and

(b) what action has been taken on the findings of the Report of Vigilance officer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE):

(a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The Chief Vigilance Officer of the State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur had, during the years 1971, 1972 and 1973, registered for investigation 8 cases relating to frauds and 5 cases relating to possession of disproportionate assets by certain officials of the bank. Of the 8 cases of fraud, 4 cases were subsequently handed over to the Central

Bureau of Investigation and 1 case to the Local Police for investigation. 3 cases were closed by the bank without further action for want of sufficient evidence after departmental investigations. The Central Bureau of Investigation has since completed investigation in the 4 cases entrusted to it and the persons concerned, which include 2 Agents of the bank, have been prosecuted in the Courts. The investigation by the Local Police in respect of the case entrusted to it is in progress. As regards the 5 cases involving possession of disproportionate assets 4 were investigated by the bank and 1 was referred to the Central Bureau of Investigation. All these 5 cases have since been closed as the allegations could not be substantiated.

In addition, the Chief Vigilance Officer of the bank had, during the years 1971, 1972 and 1973, registered 149 cases involving procedural lapses, such as violation of terms of Head Office sanction and or of the prescribed instructions in respect of loans and advances. Of these cases, 95 were dropped after preliminary investigation for want of sufficient evidence and investigation reports are under scrutiny in 24 cases. Of the remaining cases, departmental action has been initiated in respect of 27 cases and the matter was entrusted to the Central Bureau of Investigation in 3 cases. Two of the bank's officers have been placed under suspension in respect of the 3 cases entrusted to Central Bureau of Investigation.

SHRI D. K. PANDA: In the statement it has been mentioned that there were 8 cases relating to frauds and 5 cases relating to possession of disproportionate assets. It further says:

"Three cases were closed by the bank without further action for want of sufficient evidence after departmental investigations. The Central Bureau of Investigation has since completed investigation in the