

Smuggling of Gold into India

*1328. SHRI R. V. BADE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether gold worth Rs. 100 crores is smuggled into India from foreign countries every year ; and

(b) the steps Government have taken to check it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) Since it is not possible to make an exact estimate of the value of gold that is smuggled into India every year it is not possible to accept the figure indicated by the Hon. Member as correct. However, the value of gold seized as a result of anti-smuggling measures during the last 5 years was as indicated below :

Year	Value in Rs. Lakhs (at international monetary rate)
1966	195
1967	410
1968	333
1969	530
1970	428

(b) The Government have taken various administrative, legislative and economic measures to combat smuggling. Some of the important measures taken by the Government are as under : Systematic collection and follow-up information, keeping a watchful eye on the suspected smugglers, rummaging of suspected vessels or aircraft, and checking of vulnerable sectors along the coast and the land frontiers. Some senior officers of the rank of Collectors of Customs, Additional Collectors of Customs and Assistant Collector of Customs have been posted in vulnerable areas to look after anti-smuggling work exclusively. Customs Act, 1962 has been amended making additional provisions to take special measures for the purpose of checking illegal import and export of certain commodities and facilitating their detention. The position is kept under constant review.

Industrial Loans Advanced by Nationalised Banks

*1332. SHRI D. K. PANDA : Will the

Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount disbursed as industrial loan by the Nationalised Banks in 1970-71 ;

(b) the percentage of such loans which were below Rs. 1 lakh ; and

(c) what percentage has gone to industrial houses belonging to Birlas ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) to (c). It is not possible to furnish data in the manner asked for by the Hon'ble Member as most of the accounts of the borrowers would be running accounts sanctioned in the form of cash credits and overdrafts and the quantum of amount disbursed will not be available.

Construction of Cochin Bypass

*1336. SHRI M. M. JOSEPH : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kerala Government had sent some land acquisition estimates to the Centre for sanction in regard to the construction of Cochin bypass and for the development of National Highways in the State ; and

(b) whether the estimates have been sanctioned and if so, the amount sanctioned for each scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) 40 estimates aggregating Rs. 445.24 lakhs for acquisition of land for improvement of National Highways in Kerala State were received from the State Government. Estimates for acquisition of land for Cochin bypass on the approved alignment are awaited from them.

(b) 28 estimates totalling Rs. 273.05 lakhs for acquisition of land have been sanctioned and the remaining 12 estimates aggregating Rs. 172.19 lakhs are under scrutiny.

Amendments to Companies Act, 1956

*1338. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have under consi-

deration certain proposals for amending the Companies Act, 1956 to regulate distribution of audit amongst Chartered Accountants ; and

(b) if so, whether Government have consulted the Instituted Accountants of India in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY) :

(a) Various suggestions designed to prevent undue concentration of audit work of companies in a few hands are under examination ; and

(b) The Institute has already given its reactions generally to these suggestions.

Grounding of AVRO Planes

*1340. **SHRIBISHWANATHJHUNJHUNWALA :**
SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether more than half of the AVRO planes with the Indian Airlines have been grounded ;

(b) if so, the total number thereof and the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to put them back into operation ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) :

(a) to (c). There are 14 HS 748 aircraft in the fleet of Indian Airlines. During the period 1st April to 30th June, 1971, the effective fleet of HS-748 was 12 because two aircraft were earmarked for evaluation tests with the Technical Committee appointed by Government to study the performance of this aircraft. Eight or nine serviceable HS-748s out of the effective fleet of 12 were available for operation during most of the above period.

Port Facilities for Berthing of Ships and Tankers

*1342. **SHRI D. D. DESAI :** Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are planning port facilities for berthing of ships and Tankers with

gross deadweight of 300,000 Tons and above ; and

(b) whether Government have investigated the possibilities of dredging channel in soft soil near the mouth of Narmada and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) :

(a) Government are considering terminal facilities for tankers of 200,000 to 300,000 DWT on the north-west coast.

(b) The site of the terminal should be such that, among other things, no capital or maintenance dredging should be required. There should be no navigational hazards like reefs, shoals, etc. in the approaches. As regards the site near the mouth of the Narmada there is likelihood of heavy siltation in the region. There are mud bands and the depths have changing. Therefore, the site has been considered suitable.

Language Laboratory Equipment received by N. C. E. R. T.

*1343. **SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR :** Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Council of Educational Research and Training had received the Language Laboratory equipment worth about Rs. 3 lakhs in the year 1963-64 under the TCCU Programme ;

(b) the use to which the equipment was put to ; and

(c) whether the Director, N. C. E. R. T. and a Lecturer of the Council went to the USSR in connection with the Language Laboratories Project ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAVA) :

(a) The National Council of Educational Research and Training received Language Laboratory equipment worth US \$10,140 under the TCCU Programme and this was installed in the National Institute of Education Campus, New Delhi, in 1965.