

types of electromedical equipment including 'pace makers' in the private sector has been approved by Government.

(c) Yes, Sir. The 'pace makers' are, at present, imported from U.S.A., U.K., Japan and some East European Countries. The cost per piece varies from Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 3,000. The information regarding the number of 'pace makers' imported during the last three years, year-wise and country-wise is not available as this item is not separately classified in the revised Indian Trade Classification.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) A proposal for exemption from levy of customs duty on ordinary imports of pace makers is under consideration. Pace Makers that are gifted have already been exempted.

Seizures of Smuggled Goods

*170. DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH:
SHRI ABDUL GHANI DAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the smuggling activities on the sea and other borders of India have declined to any extent because of the anti-smuggling drive;

(b) the value of contraband gold and other articles seized by customs and other authorities in the years 1969-70 and 1970-71 upto June last and the number of persons arrested during each of these years; and

(c) the steps being taken to stop contraband trade of goods of Indian origin being smuggled out of India?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) It is difficult to come to any definite conclusions one way or the other. If the quantum of smuggled goods seized is an index of anti-smuggling drive, then the considerable increase in the number of seizures and value of seized goods is indicative of the

effectiveness of the anti-smuggling measures taken by the Government.

(b) The value of contraband gold and other articles seized during the period is given below:—

	1969-70 (Rs. lakhs)	1970-71 (upto June) (Rs. lakhs)
International monetary value of gold	490	168
Market value of other seized contrabands	1878	469

The number of Persons arrested is as under:—

	Indian	Foreigners
1969-70	2074	81
1970-71 (upto May)	366	16

(c) The position with regard to the smuggling out of goods of Indian origin is kept under close watch for strengthening the preventive checks whenever necessary.

Silver being a popular item for smuggling out of India, amendment of the Customs Act in January, 1969 providing for control over its movement in the coastal areas has produced the desired effect with considerable fall in the quantity smuggled.

Clearance of Loans given by the International Monetary Fund to India

*171. SHRI S.K. TAPURIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's foreign exchange reserves stand over a billion mark;

(b) if so, whether in this context India intends to repay all its debts to the International Monetary Fund; and

(c) if so, the total amount due to India as outstanding drawing from International Monetary Fund?