

loans whereby the entire Government subsidy amount which has been released is going waste. What action the Minister is proposing to take on this issue?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: First, I take the first part of the question. Productivity in terms of average business per employee in the banking industry has increased from Rs. 17.06 lakhs at the end of December 1985 to Rs 21.72 lakhs at the end of December 1987.

Regarding the implementation of Service Area Approach, the concept visualises that every Branch in the rural and semi-urban areas will be in-charge of a cluster of villages. And the branch will prepare a credit plan for these cluster of villages or the command area of the branch and this credit plan will be implemented very soon on an annual basis.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: When are you going to do it?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : From the First of April, that is, from the new financial year.

Seizure of Gold

*225. SHRI KRISHNA SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of gold seized by Revenue Intelligence and Customs authorities during the past three months, indicating details of the seizures; and

(b) the specific steps being taken to prevent smuggling of gold into the country and its trade ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) and (b). A statement is given below:-

STATEMENT

- (a) Total quantity of gold seized by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Customs authorities and other enforcement agencies throughout the country during the past three months is given below.

Month	Quantity of gold seized (All India including Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (In Kgs.))	Value of gold seized All India including Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (Rs. in crores)	Quantity of gold seized by Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (In Kgs.)	Value of gold seized by Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4	5
December, 1988	1490	52.98	315	10.40
January, 1989	1075	36.26	50	1.65
February, 1989	1832	61.00	743	24.37
Total	4397	150.24	1108	36.42

- (b) Anti-smuggling drive throughout the country has been intensified. The anti-smuggling machinery particularly in vulnerable areas of seacoast, land borders and the international seaports and airports remains alert to check and combat smuggling of contraband. Sophisticated anti-smuggling equipment such as : X-ray baggage machines, metal detectors are utilised for prevention and detection of gold concealed on person of passengers and their baggage/in-cargo. Close co-ordination is maintained with all the concerned agencies in the prevention and detection of smuggling of contraband.

SHRI KRISHNA SINGH: In reply to a previous question it was indicated by the hon. Minister that about 1327 persons had been arrested during 1988, in connection with smuggling of gold. May I know how many of them were prosecuted and how many of them convicted; whether the smugglers are found to be in the clutches of terrorists in Punjab who force them to procure arms with the booty, if so, what is the Government's reaction in this regard?

SHRI A.K. PANJA: As per the provisional figure, in 1988, 3290 persons were arrested, 2281 persons prosecuted and 749 persons convicted.

So far as Punjab terrorists are concerned, we have not yet got a conclusive evidence of their connection or dealing with narcotic drugs and gold. But we cannot rule out the possibility.

SHRI KRISHNA SINGH: May I know whether the recently contemplated amendment of Gold Control Order and the relevant laws as announced by the Finance Minister during the Budget Speech is likely to curb effectively the gold smuggling activity which is likely to disturb the country's economy enormously? If so, what specific modifica-

tions in the law are contemplated and how is it likely to work in this matter of preventing gold smuggling?

SHRI A.K. PANJA: There were two Committees which went into this matter one was the Dutta Committee and the other was the Rangarajan Committee. After that, the Prime Minister has formed a Group of Ministers to go into the details of recommendations of these Committees and the Group of Ministers will go into this and let us know what is to be done.

SHRI D.P. JADEJA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the statement of the hon. Minister, he has mentioned about some vulnerable areas where special steps have been taken. May I know from the hon. Minister whether there are any vulnerable areas where police have been able to catch more gold and contraband goods than the Customs Department? And what does the hon. Minister think, reason for this?

SHRI A.K. PANJA: It is a combined action taken by the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau, the Narcotic Control Board, the DRI, the Police, the Coast Guards and also the CRPF and the BSF. There is no particular area as such. If it is an unguarded area or the open border, then joint action takes place. In some areas, duties are cast on a particular group of personnel. That is why, if smuggling takes place and if it is BSF, BSF intervenes. But we coordinate all that through our Department.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY: It was reported in the press that the Government is considering a proposal to permit bona fide passengers especially ladies to have certain limited quantities of gold for personal use. Is it a fact or not?

SHRI A.K. PANJA: It is a fact. But the Government is not considering that now. As I said there are two Committees the Rangarajan Committee and the Dutta Committee which have made various recommendations. One such recommendation is to carry gold in the form of jewellery and not as

primary gold. A group of ministers has been formed by the Hon. Prime Minister and they are going into the details.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: From the answer it seems that the work done in this area of seizure of illegal gold is quite appreciable during the last three months. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister as to how does this figure and quantity compare with the quantity of gold seized in the year 1985-86. To get a comparative picture, how was it when this Government took charge in 1985-86 when everybody know who was the Finance Minister as compared to now?

SHRI A.K. PANJA : The value of the gold seized in 1985-86 in crores is Rs. 51.89 in 1988 upto December, the value of gold seized is Rs. 200.51 crores. The rate of increase is 544.11%

Counter Trade with Bofors

*226. **DR. A.K. PATEL:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the objects kept in view in signing the Memorandum of Understanding on counter trade with Bofors; and

(b) the items being exported through Bofors and which of them are non-traditional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) and (b). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

- (a) The Memorandum of Understanding between the State Trading Corporation and M/s. Bofors was signed with a view to setting down operational procedures for implementing the Counter-Trade provision in the main Agreement under which Bofors had agreed to purchase commodities from India to the extent

of not less than 50% of the value of the contract.

- (b) A list of items exported under the Counter-Trade with Bofors is given in the annexure below. This includes non-traditional items like chemicals, pharmaceuticals, yarn/drill, terry towels, hand tools, galvanised pipes, Bicycle spares, packet tea, computer components, Dyes/stripped sheet/High carbon ferromanganese, polypropylene bags etc.

List of Items Exported Under the Counter-Trade MOU with Bofors Till 31.12.1989.

1. Chemicals
2. Pharmaceuticals
3. Yarn/Drill
4. Terry Towels
5. Hand tools
6. Galvanised pipes
7. Mango Kernel Oil
8. Guargum Powder/splits
9. Psyllium husk
10. Niger seed
11. Pressure stoves
12. Bicycle spares
13. Sewing thread
14. Green Cardamom
15. Groundnut extraction
16. Coffee
17. Packet tea