

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to stop issuances of such currency notes to the public and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE. (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) whether a note is soiled or not is a matter of individual opinion which may vary from person to person. The Reserve Bank of India have issued instructions to all banks maintaining Currency Chests to sort out notes available with them into reissuables and non-reissuables, and issue to public and other banks only reissuable notes which are not soiled/torn/mutilated alongwith fresh notes. Facilities for exchange of soiled notes have been made available at all branches of public sector banks for the benefit of public.

Arrests of Drug Peddlers

2436. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

हैडलूम टेक्नालाजी प्रशिक्षण संस्थान

2435. श्री अजीत जोशी :

ठाकुर जगतपाल सिंह :

क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार मध्य प्रदेश में हैडलूम टेक्नालाजी प्रशिक्षण संस्थान स्थापित करने का विचार रखती है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका व्यौरा क्या है ?

वस्त्र मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रफीक प्रालम) : (क) जो, नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report which appeared in the *Times of India* of the 8th July, 1988 to the effect that 32 kingpins of international drug syndicate have been apprehended in the Capital;

(b) if so, what is the quantity of drugs seized from them;

(c) whether any inquiry has since been made in this regard; and

(d) if so, the nature of action taken against the culprits ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) The Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Ordinance has been promulgated on 4-7-1988. The Ordinance provides for the detention of any person with a view to preventing him from engaging in illicit traffic. Illicit traffic has been severally defined in the Ordinance to cover a number of illicit operations including production, manufacture, etc. of drugs and also cultivation of narcotic plants. Under the Ordinance, as on 28-7-1988, 118 persons have been detained in respect of whom there was evidence that they had indulged in or likely to indulge in illicit traffic in drugs.

(b) During the period from 1-1-1988 to 30-6-1988, the following drugs have been seized :

	Quantity (Hnks.)
Opium	1,372
Morphine	4
Heroin	1,708
Ganja	15,470
Hashish	12,259
Cocaine	4
Methaqualone	536

(c) and (d). The detenus have been lodged in different jails all over the country. After the completion of investigation and requisite procedural formalities, they are also liable for prosecution under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.

Seizure of Gold from a Crew's cabin in a Panamanian Registered Ship

2437. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH
MALIK
SHRIMATI RENUKA
CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report which appeared in the *Times of India* of the 4th July, 1988 to the effect that the Officers of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence seized gold worth Rs. 2 crores from a crew's cabin in a Panamanian registered ship M. V. Orient Express;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether any action has since been taken by Government against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A JIT PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Search of the Cabin of Second Officer of a Panamanian registered ship M.V. 'Orient Express' on 3rd July, 1988 resulted in the recovery and seizure of 375 foreign marked gold bars weighing 10 tolas each collectively valued at Rs. 1.42 crores approximately. The vessel valued at Rs. 2.5 crores approximately alongwith containers and goods meant for other ports collectively valued at Rs. 50 lakhs were also seized. The Second Officer was ar-rested.

Permanent Account Number to Income Tax assesseees

2438. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY : SHRI
BEKAL UTSAHI.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allot permanent account numbers to every income-tax assessee during the financial year 1988-89 as a stringent measure to enforce income-tax laws and reduce incidence of tax evasion through better monitoring; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) what is the total number of income-tax assesseees in the country at present and how many of them have been given a permanent account number?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANIA): (a) and (b) The Income-tax Department's scheme is to allot permanent account numbers to all the assesseees through the computer system if such a permanent account number has not been allotted earlier. The Computer Centres at Madras, Hyderabad and Bangalore have completed the allotment of permanent account numbers. The Computer Centres at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Ahmedabad, Pune, Agra, Kanpur, Amritsar, Coimbatore, Madurai, Jaipur and Nagpur are allotting permanent account numbers to the assesseees. The Computer Centres which have been established during 1988-89 at Patiala, Allahabad, Meerut, Bhopal, Baroda, Jalandhar, Nasik, Kolhapur and Rohtak would also start allotment of permanent account numbers through computers.

Permanent account number is allotted for establishing the identity of a taxpayers. It will facilitate computerisation programmes pertaining to tax receipts, assessments of income verification of transactions etc. It will also facilitate verification of various transactions which may be notified under Section 139A(6) of the Income-tax Act. These measures would lead to better monitoring of compliance of tax laws and procedures and would result in reducing tax evasion.