

Inquiries revealed that a complaint had earlier been filed by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies against Shri Ram Prakash Gupta and one other person. On the basis of this complaint, a case was registered on 3-10-1975 under section 408 IPC at Police Station Hauzkazi and the two accused were arrested. The allegation against the two accused was that they had misappropriated Rs. 3,60,548.00 during the years 1961 to 1967. Since the case was already registered and pending trial in the Court, the question of registering a fresh FIR did not arise.

**Loans given by Banks in Chandigarh under Employment Oriented Scheme**

\*377. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the number of appli-

cations received by different banks in Chandigarh for loans under the various employment oriented schemes during each of the last three years;

(b) what was the number of applicants who were granted loans during this period; and

(c) what is the total amount of loan disbursed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) The number of applications received by banks in Chandigarh for loans under the various employment oriented schemes during the last three years, cases sanctioned and amount disbursed are indicated below:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Years	Applications received	Applications sanctioned	Amount disbursed
1985-86	661	494	51.26
1986-87	2927	1634	86.10
1987-88	2092	1150	46.00

**Recovery of Excise Duty from M/s. ITC Ltd.**

\*378. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:  
SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an adjudication order was passed on the 19th April, 1986 against M/s. ITC Ltd. by the Director General of Inspection, Ministry of Finance and that the methodology for calculation of excise rates and the amount payable vide the adjudication order was confirmed by the Ministry of Law;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in pursuance of the order a demand notice for Rs. 80 crores was issued to the ITC Ltd. on the 28th April, 1988 by the Collector of Central Excise, Meerut; and

(c) if so, whether the amount has since been recovered and; if not, what are the reasons and the delay in recovering the dues, stating the steps being contemplated by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

(SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b)  
Yes Sir.

(c) The amount has not yet been recovered. M/s. ITC Ltd. have filed a writ petition in the Allahabad High Court and the matter is sub-judice.

### Customs duty racket

\*379. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI:  
SHRI SHANTI TYAGI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a multi-crore racket involving evasion of customs duty with the alleged connivance of the Customs staff at the cargo complex near the Indira Gandhi International Airport has been busted on the 11th August, 1988 as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' of 12th August, 1988; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) The attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item in the 'Hindustan Times' of 12th August, 1988 regarding a multi-crore racket involving evasion of customs duty at the Air Cargo Complex near Indira Gandhi International Airport. The racket involving evasion of customs duty of about Rs. 4.6 crores was detected by the customs authorities at the air cargo complex during the last week of July, 1988. The racket involved, *inter alia*, the use of forged duty-paid stamps of a nationalised bank and the signatures of the bank officials as well as the stamps and signature of a customs clerk to falsely show that customs duty in respect of the consignments sought to be cleared through customs had been paid into the bank. On the basis of this forged evidence of pay-

ment of duty, the goods had been cleared without duty actually having been paid. During the course of their investigations, the Customs officers seized film rolls and zippers totally valued at Rs. 1.7 crores (approx.). They also searched various business and residential premises and seized, *inter alia*, 21,000 imported film rolls believed to have been cleared without payment of duty. Three persons believed to have been involved in the racket, including a daily wage earner working in the Customs Office, were arrested by Customs and produced before the Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate.

As the racket disclosed also forgery and fraud which are offences under the Indian Penal Code copies of the relevant documents and records were handed over to the CBI on 8-8-88 and a formal communication regarding the handing over of the documents to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) was sent to the CBI on 9-8-88. During the course of their investigations, the CBI have searched some more premises and registered some complaints. The investigations by the CBI are in progress. The alleged connivance of Customs officials in the matter is being looked into by the CBI.

### Central Help to Gujarat to curb indiscipline in Police

\*380. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO: KALVALA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state what help the Central Government extended to Gujarat Government in curbing the recent indiscipline in Gujarat police?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): Parliamentary and military forces were made available to the Government of Gujarat by Central Government at their request.