

Seizure of narcotic drugs *266.

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA:?

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL
MATTO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the quantity of hashish, heroin, opium and other narcotic drugs seized by the various agencies of his Ministry during the financial years 1984-85 and 1985-86;

(b) what was the approximate value in international market of the above narcotics during the periods mentioned above;

(c) what is the procedure regarding seizure of such narcotics in the States by the agencies of the State Governments; and

(d) what is the procedure adopted with regard to the disposal and accounting of the narcotics thus seized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (d) A
Statement is laid on the Table of the
House.

Statement

(a) As per reports received, the quantities of hashish, heroin, opium and other narcotic drugs seized by the Customs and Central Excise Collectorates, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and the Central Bureau of Narcotics during the calendar years 1984, 1985 and 1986 (upto 30-6-1986) are as under:—

Name of drug	1984	1985	1986
	Quantity seized	Quantity seized	Quantity seized
	kg.	kg.	kg.
1. Hashish	1,762	4,013	3,410
2. Heroin	69	156	764
			+40 Liters Liquid heroin
3. Opium	2,635	3,267	964
4. Ganja	9,876	53,877	19,551
5. Morphine	7	120	39
6. Cocaine	7	125	7

NOTE:—Figures are provisional and rounded off to the nearest kilogram

(b) No precise value of the drug seized can be furnished, as the illicit market price varies widely from place to place and time to time, depending upon the purity of the drug, local demand and supply position, place of origin, etc.

(c) The provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 are applied by the enforcement agencies of the State Government for confiscation of the drugs. The offenders are also proceeded against under the said Act.

(d) and (e) After confiscation, opium and morphine are sent to the Government

*f-The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Sri S.S. Ahluwalia.

Opium and Alkaloid Factory, Ghazipur for processing/re-processing as the case be. Ganja, being » State subject, its disposal is made by the State authorities as per the State Government rules. The other narcotic drugs are generally destroyed. Till the confiscated goods are destroyed, proper accounts are required to be maintained.

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: Sir,
here Government has taken....

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is; is it really destroyed or is it just sent back? He has only given an instance about the notes.

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: I₁ is destroyed. If there is any specific instance which has come to the knowledge of the hon. Member, it may be brought to our notice. We will take action.

श्री एस. एस. आहलूवालिया : श्रीमन्, नारकोटिक्स में पाँप ग्रंथ भी आते हैं। पाँप हर्ड्स जो हैं, जो शाखा के साथ होते हैं इनको बाहर के मूलकों में बहुत माँप है और वह इनको एज डेकोरेटिव परपज के लिए खरीदना चाहते हैं और उसको वह ड्राई फ्लावर के नाम से प्रचारित करते हैं।

हमारे हिन्दुस्तान से इनका निर्यात बंद है, इसलिए कि इसमें करीब 0.02 प्रतिशत शराफी होती है, जिसकी एक्सपोर्ट बंद होने के कारण पाँप ग्रंथ को करीब तीन-चार करोड़ की विदेशी मुद्रा का नुकसान हो रहा है।

इसके बारे में सरकार कुछ कर रही है क्या? माननीय सभापति महोदय, मंत्री जी ने अपने जवाब में (डी) और (ई) में कहा है नारकोटिक्स के निपटान करने के भी कुछ तरीके हैं जिसमें एक तरीका यह है कि कुछ नारकोटिक्स गवर्नमेंट अफीम और अलक-लायड फैक्टरी, गाजीपूर में भेजे जाते हैं जहाँ उनका निपटान किया जाता है। मैं मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह उसी तरह से किया जाता है जैसे कि सायलड नोट्स का जबकि सायलड नोट्स को भट्टी में जला कर खत्म किया जाना चाहिये लेकिन यह बैंकों के माध्यम से फिर सर्कुलेट होते हैं। मैं मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इन नारकोटिक्स का निपटान भी क्या इसी तरीके से किया जाता है?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: Sir, this question is relating to seizure. And Sir, the suggestion made by the hon. Member, I will examine.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO: For information, am I entitled to two supplementaries or one?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are entitled to one supplementary, but you can always 'y' (b)'.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO:

Sir, my question is this. According to the figures given by the hon. Minister, the narcotics problem has assumed a grave proportion. For instance, 1,762 kg. of hashish was seized in 1984. But this year, for six months along 8,410 kg. of hashish has been seized. Similarly, 9,876 kg. of ganja was seized in 1984, but 19,551 kg. of ganja has been seized this year. This means that this has assumed a very grave proportion.

The Central Government is primarily responsible for the implementation of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, though it delegates powers to the State Government for that purpose. As mentioned in section 2 it is subject to the supervision and control of the Central Government. Under section 6— it is a very important question—the Central Government had to constitute a Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Consultative Committee to advise the Central Government on such matters relating to the administration as referred to by the Government from time to time. The Committee shall consist of a Chairman and such other members, not exceeding 20, as may be appointed by the Central Government. Has the Government appointed any such Advisory Committee so that they may advise on why this problem has assumed such a proportion?

Sir, my first question is this. Sections 15 to 25 speak about the punishment for contravention of the rules with regard to narcotics. Except for one, in no other section it is less than 10 years, and it is up to 20 years. May I ask the hon. Minister, when such a huge amount of crores of rupees is involved, how many people have been arrested and how many people have been sentenced under the provisions of these sections.

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: So far as the part first of this supplementary is concerned, an advisory committee will be set up shortly. With regard to part second of his supplementary, we have arrested about 1,441 people during the year 1985. This year upto this time we have arrested about 452 people.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO: How many people have been sentenced to imprisonment? There is a provision that it will not be less than ten years.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am putting the question for you. Please sit down. There are two things: (i) Is there a special committee consisting of 20 members as contemplated? Whether this has been constituted? (ii) How many people have been arrested and sentenced to imprisonment?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: So far as setting up of the committee is concerned, as I said earlier, it will be constituted shortly. Regarding imposition of punishment we do not have full particulars. But I can tell the hon. Members in some cases we have been given to understand that the courts have not been able to award punishment as prescribed in the Act. That is the point. We are looking into this matter.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: If the courts are not awarding punishment, in accordance with the Act, why these have been established?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: For that purpose we have asked the Department to look into this matter. We have also filed appeals against some cases in courts. We are also considering a suggestion to set up special courts to deal exclusively with these matters.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, the Government is very careful in this matter.

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: For that purpose we will set up special courts.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, the Government is very casual in this matter.

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: We are not casual. We are very serious about this matter. That is why we are moving in that direction; and actively considering the proposal to set up special courts.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are having part 'C' also.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO: Sir, section 36 says that notwithstanding

anything contained in the clause of Criminal procedure Code any offence punishable under sections 26, 27 and 32 of the said Act may be tried summarily by the Magistrate of First Class. These powers are already there with you. Why don't you exercise these powers?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: Sir, as you know, the punishment to be awarded is vested with the courts. We can only go in for appeals and we cannot interfere with the functioning of the judiciary.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: This is the reply.

SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Sir, Parliament has passed the Narcotic Psycho-tropic Substances Bill. In spite of that there are large scale seizure of narcotic drugs. This shows clearly that mere passing of the Bill will not be enough—Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, whether the strength of the venue Intelligence and Police officials would be increased to deal with the drug traffickers ably? Whether there is any high level connection with the drug traffickers? Sir, recently in the Mehrauli case, the police officials have seized narcotic drugs worth of Rs. 3 crores. The culprit absconded even before the raid was conducted. That is why I want to know, whether there is any high level connection?

Sir, part 'b' of my question is whether the British Government has complained time and again that 50 per cent of the drugs sold in U.K. are from India? Whether it is also a fact that they wanted Kaposi British enforcement officials in India, to help our officials to track down the drug trafficking? If so, why this proposal was not accepted by the Government, of India?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: Sir, so far as seizure of drugs is concerned, I want to bring to the notice of the hon. (Members that we have created world record (*Interruptions*). I am not bringing to your notice (*Interruptions*). It is not a matter to be taken very lightly. It is because of the effort that has been made by the officials—

When there is a good performance, it is our duty to pat them. Regarding the seizure of Heroine, what has been the performance of the Government? In the year 1983, the seizure was only 103 kgs. In 1984, the seizure was 119 kgs. in the year 1985, the seizure was 557 kgs. but in the year 1986, for about 6 months, the seizure is 1515 kgs. It is more than all the seizures that has been made in the past. Sir in one single seizure, we have created a world record of seizure *i.e.* 604 kgs. *(interruption)*. Sir, because of the efforts of the Government, there is a spurt in the seizure. This fact has been recognised not only by U.S.A. but also by Guinness Book. I am bringing this fact to the notice of the hon. Members and would like to know whether they are not proud of this. India has been used as a transit country for drug trafficking. Further Sir, United Nations and other countries are giving assistance to Pakistan so far as the seizure of these drugs is concerned. But without any foreign assistance, this is the performance of India. I think, we should be proud of it. Now, this is the compliment that has to be given by the Parliament to the Revenue Department and we should take note of this. Another thing I bring to the notice of the hon. Members is that so far as the proposal that has come from London High Commission or from Britain saying that we should cooperate with them in this regard is concerned, I may inform the hon. Members that we are cooperating with them. We welcomed that suggestion but at the same time, we have to keep in mind the crimes not only in this area but in all the other areas including terrorism and other crimes both, seizures and all the smugglers activities, and if they are cooperating, if they are going to give

their coordination, we will welcome the proposal. Otherwise, we have to examine it thoroughly.

MR. CHAIRMAN; You are all intoxicated now.

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH :
Sir, apart from the quantity of seizure. p .

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI; Nobody is intoxicated. Only the Minister is intoxicated .

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH;
Sir, apart from the quantity of seizure, the greatest question is that we are becoming the biggest transit point of these narcotics internationally. My respectful question would be : in view of the fact that We have become an immediate transit point for these narcotics, what steps, the Government propose to take to stop this kind of threat?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI; Sir, it is true that India has been used as a transit country and it is an accepted fact but what we have done is that we have taken number of steps as a result of which we have been able to contain it and also to prevent it to a certain extent.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: Sir, the statement is a little disturbing. It says, the other narcotics drugs are generally destroyed. The other drugs are heroine and hashish etc. So, my question is: when are they not destroyed, because the Minister has said, it is generally destroyed. The second sentence says that till the confiscated goods are destroyed proper accounts are required to be maintained. This also is very dangerous. For how long are they kept? We know accounts are so loose that it can be, in the meantime, distributed and then it can be shown from a subsequent search. These

are my questions. How long does it take to destroy? And what happens when you do not destroy? Please answer.

MR. CHAIRMAN; Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTION Construction of Janata Hotels

♦262. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU:
Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme for the construction of low-budget tourist hotels and also development of tourist complexes for promotion of tourist industry;

(b) if so, what is the amount allocated for the construction of such hotels in Orissa;

(c) whether Government have given any encouragement to the public and private sectors to build more Janata Hotels near places of tourist attraction; and

(d) if so, what are the names of the agencies which have undertaken the construction of such hotels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir. The Department of Tourism has a scheme for the construction of low-budget accommodation in the form of Yatri Niwases and Yatrikas to promote tourism.

(b) An amount of Rs. 26.50 lakhs has been sanctioned for the construction of a Yatri Niwas at Satpada in Orissa. Besides, Bhartiya Yatri Awas Vikas Samiti is also setting up a Yatrika at Puri at an estimated cost of Rs. 13.50 lakhs.

(c) and (d) There is no Government scheme for the construction of Janata

Hotels as such. However, the India Tourism Development Corporation is constructing 3-star hotels at Guwahati Puri, Bhopal and Ranchi and 1-2 star hotels at Pondicherry and Itanagar as joint venture projects in collaboration with the respective State Governments or the Union Territories, which could be used by budget tourists. Private parties are being encouraged to construct more hotels including those of the 1 to 3-star categories by extending certain tax/fiscal reliefs; facility of institutional loan; priority consideration in the allotment of scarcity items, like LPG (Cooking Gas), telephone and telex connections; and grant of foreign exchange for imports and overseas advertising, publicity and promotion and a scheme for subsidising the interest on term loans obtained by hotel projects from the financial institutions.

Provident Fund outstanding against M/s. Amrita Bazar Patrika Ltd. and M/s. Jugantar Ltd.

*267. SHRI CHITTA BASU: SHRI
RAMKRISHNA
MAZUMDER:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1609 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 11th March, 1986 and state:

(a) whether M/s. Amrita Bazar Patrika Limited and M/s. Jugantar Limited (Annex. II) have since deposited the employees' share of provident fund contribution after showing the amount, as deducted from; the workers' wages;

(b) if not whether complaints have been filed with the Police authorities under Section 406/409 of the IPC for criminal breach of trust and misappropriation of trust money, and

(c) if so, what are the details of the action taken by the Police authorities?