

Rs. 9.01 crores. Commodity-wise statistics of seizures at airports is not maintained separately.

(b) and (c) Besides initiating departmental proceedings for confiscation of smuggled goods and imposition of personal penalties on the persons involved in smuggling of gold and other contraband items, 1,204 such persons were arrested during the period from January to June, 1985. During the same period, orders for preventive detention against 543 persons under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange, and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974 were passed. No separate figures for airports are, however, maintained.

Legislation to Check Smuggling of Narcotics and Drug Abuse

*13. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to bring forward a comprehensive Bill to check smuggling of narcotics and drug abuse in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that India figures prominently on the world narcotic smuggling map; and

(c) if so, what measures Government propose to take to prevent smuggling of heroin and other narcotic drugs and also prevent misuse of drugs by the younger generation of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAN-ARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir. A draft for comprehensive legislation on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances to check smuggling of such drugs and substances is at an advanced stage of finalisation for introduction in Parliament.

(a) and (c) The production capacity and the actual production of SAIL steel in transit traffic in drugs. This is also evident from the recent reports of the International Narcotics Control Board. In its report for the year 1984 the Board has, *inter alia*, observed that, "India is

increasingly used as a transit country for opiates and cannabis destined for other regions of the world and New Delhi and Bombay are reportedly the most important exit points for these drugs".

The field formations remain vigilant to check smuggling including that of narcotics. Appropriate anti-smuggling measures are taken in co-ordination with the concerned Central and State Government authorities. Close co-operation with the concerned international agencies is also maintained to curb smuggling of drugs. Action regarding prevention of drug abuse is co-ordinated by the Ministry of Social and Women's Welfare. The matter is kept under constant review for appropriate action.

Finance Minister's interview with Public on TV

*14. DR. H. P. SHARMA.

SHRIMATI MAIMOONA
SULTAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the public grievances brought to his notice during his last interview with the public on T. V.; and

(b) what steps have been taken so far in the light thereof to redress the grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAN-ARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) In the 'Janvani Programme' on Doordarshan on 2nd July 1985, there were 13 participants voiced their complaints (suggestions) parts of country who had an interview with the Finance Minister. The participants voiced their complaints/suggestions relating to banking services based on specific problems experienced by them such as delays in encashment/collection of cheques, problems encountered in securing loans, difficulties experienced because of soiled notes and shortage of coins etc. Some issues of general nature such as industrial sickness, increasing overliens of banks were also raised.

2. While specific grievances 'voiced by the participants are being resolved on a priority basis, efforts are being made to improve customer service in banks by simplifying procedures and bringing about a change in the attitude and behaviour of bank employees. Towards this end banks faavs been asked to have periodical contact with customers and customers' organisations and also to make 'customer service' an integral part of their training programmes. They have also been asked to attend to customers' grievances speedily.

Raid on fr'ic Art Silk Industry in Surat

*15. SHRI CHATURANAN

MISHRA :

SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that officials of the Directorate of Anti-evasion under the Department of Customs and Central Excise wcr_e assaulted and injured while a raid was being launched at the art silk mills and also at the residence^ of art silk manufacturers in Surat recently,

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard, including the value of the unaccounted processed cloth and incriminating documents and black money recovered during the raid;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Gujarat Government did not provide any protection to the Anti-evasbn staff during the raid; if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is also a fact that information about the raid to be conducted leaked out a_s has been reported in the Economic Times of June 4, 1985;

(e) if so, whether any inquiry was conducted into thi_s matter; and

(f) if the answer to part (a) above be In the affirmative, what i_s the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN TH MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M ARDHAN POOIARI);' (a) and (t During the course of searches at the pr mises of 16 factories processing Art Si] /fabrics and 40 shop_s at Surat on 24l May, 1985, central excise officers conduc ing the searches were assaulted and ii jured i_n the textile market and in thi premises of 11 factories. Fabrics value over Rs. 6.50 crores approximately nc accounted for in the central' excise record and a number of incriminating document were seized during th.» searches whicl continued till 31st May, 1985.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Circumstances do not indicate thai there was any leakage of information about the raid.

(;) and (t) Do not arise.

Taking over of Mills by Gujarat Government

*16. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gujarat Government propose to take over 12 textile mills of Ahmedabad and for that purpose the Central Government have made a provision of Rs. 69 crores as loan to the Gujarat Government and that Rs. 15 crores will be made available in the initial stage; and

(h) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEK.HAR SINGH): (a) and (b) A proposal has been received from the Government of Gujarat for the 'nationalisation of 12 closed cotton textile mills of Ahmedabad by the State Government. This is under discussion between tine Central Government and the Gujarat State Government.