

**Disappearance of Shri W. D. Jones, A  
Director of the Hindustan Motors Limited**

1291. SHRI KALYAN ROY:  
SHRI PHANINDRA NATH  
HANSDA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sometime  
back Shri W. D. Jones, Director, Hindustan  
Motors Limited made a confessional  
statement about the foreign exchange  
violation by the company;

(b) if so, what are the details in this  
regard;

(c) whether it is fact that on the basis of  
the confession and seized documents, show-  
cause notices were issued to S/Shri B M.  
Birla, M. P. Birla, G D Kothari and other  
Directors, of the Company and if so, what is  
the result thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that Government  
made no objection in court to the return of  
the passport, which was earlier impounded,  
to Shri Jones enabling him to flee the  
country; if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(e) whether it is also a fact that Shri  
Jones who was ordered by the court to return  
to India by the 10th  
March, 1974, has failed to do so; and

(f) whether Government have  
taken any action to find out his whereabouts  
and for his extradition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN  
THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI  
SATISH AGARWAL): (a) to (f) Acting on  
certain information the premises of M/s  
Hindustan Motors Ltd. and other connected  
premises were searched by the Directorate of  
Enforcement in October-, 1969, as a result of  
which large number of documents were  
seized. Shri W. D. Jones, Director of  
Supplies of M/s. Hindustan Motors Ltd. was  
also arrested on

26-11-69 under Section 19B of Foreign  
Exchange Regulation Act, 1947 and produced  
before the Chief Presidency Magistrate,  
Calcutta who released him on bail. He was  
examined under Section 19E of Foreign  
Exchange Regulation Act, 1947 between 5-7-  
71 to 28-7-71 and his statements were re-  
corded with regard to the seized documents.  
No confessional statement under section 164  
of Cr. P. C. was recorded.

As a result of the investigations made  
including examination of Shri Jones, show  
cause notices were issued to M/s Hindustan  
Motors Ltd., including its Directors S/Shri B.  
M. Birla and W. D. Jones, M/s United  
Commercial Bank Limited and its Directors  
including S/Shri M. P. Birla and G. D.  
Kothari for contravention of Setl 4(2) of  
Foreign Exchange Regulation Act. 1947, for  
sale of foreign exchange amounting to  
69.32.222 (approx) by M/s United  
Commercial Bank Limited to M/s Hindustan  
Motors Ltd. in pursuance of a contract for  
forward sale of foreign exchange entered into  
by them on 4-6-66. The cases are pending  
adjudication on account of writs filed by  
parties before Calcutta High Court.

The Enforcement Directorate did not seize  
the passport of Shri Jones nor do they have  
the authority to impound passports. Shri Jones  
was allowed to leave India by the Chief  
Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta in November  
1973 on humanitarian grounds, on furnishing  
a surety for Rs. 5 lakhs and executing a bond  
for his return to India within six months of his  
departure from India. Shri Jones continued to  
remain abroad on account of his illness, with  
the permission of the Court and subsequently  
he died in London on 28th April 1976. The  
fact was intimated to the Hon'ble Member,  
Shri Kalyan Roy while replying to the Starred  
Question No. 63 in the Rajya Sabha on 12th  
August 1976. The Extradition Act does not  
apply to offences under the Foreign Exchange  
Regulation Act.