

**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 some-
time back Shri W. D. Jones, Director,
Hindustan Motors Limited made a
confessional statement about the fore-
ign exchange violation by the com-
pany;

(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 Direc-
tors of the Company and if so, what
is the result thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that Gov-
ernment 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 whe-
reabouts 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 docu-
ments were seized. Shri W. D. Jones,
Director of Supplies of M/s. Hindus-
tan 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 Re-
gulation Act, 1947 between 5-7-71
to 28-7-71 and his statements were re-
corded with regard to the seized docu-
ments. 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 in-
cluding S/Shri M. P. Birla and G. D.
Kothari for contravention of Section
4(2) of Foreign Exchange Regulation
Act, 1947, for sale of foreign exchange
amounting to Rs. 222 (approx.)
by M/s United Commercial Bank Li-
imited 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 im-
pound passports. Shri Jones was al-
lowed 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 per-
mission of the Court and subsequent-
ly 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 Ques-
tion No. 63 in the Rajya Sabha on
12th August 1976. The Extradition
Act does not apply to offences under
the Foreign Exchange Regulation
Act.