

आकर्षित कर चुका हू कि इसके लिये पब्लिक एकाउन्ट्स फांटी ने भी लिखी है .

श्री सभापति : आप प्रश्न करिये ।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : इसकी कब से माग होती रही है और सरकार इसके प्रति क्या उपेक्षा की वृत्ति अपनाये हुए है ?

SHRI K R GANESH: Firstly Vishakhapatnam does not fall in this line. The major part of smuggling is done along the Tamil Nadu coast and it is confined to four or five districts in Tamil Nadu. River Coleroon is a very good shelter for the smugglers while they come from the sea because they can enter this river and dispose of the smuggled goods. As a result of this, the former Madras Collectorate has been divided and a preventive collectorate in Madurai has been formed so as to control the entire coast right from the South Arcot district to the southernmost point in Ramanathapuram district in Tamil Nadu. This Madurai collectorate is responsible for co-ordinating all the anti-smuggling and preventive work in vulnerable coastal belt of Tamil Nadu. It has five sea-base parties provided with launches and 25 preventive parties with 21 vehicles. It has under them 150 officers and over 260 men. A network of intelligence officers is attached to the Madurai collectorate.

As regards the question about fast-going seacraft, I agree it is very important. I share the concern of the hon. Member. The PAC has also referred to this aspect. I agree that it is very important to catch smuggling because smuggling is no longer confined to those people who use either aircraft or seacraft. Smuggling between two neighbouring countries has almost become a sophisticated art and it has taken the form of a profession. A committee was set up to find out the suitability of the craft that will be necessary for checking smuggling. More time is taken up by this process. I quite concede that. It has been decided that it will be necessary to have very fast launches, both big and small. We have taken a decision to

give order to the Garden Reach Workshop to find out these launches for us. They have also some difficulties because the launches are not available with them. We are trying to find out if any *ad hoc* decision could be taken in this regard. If only our officers can go there, they can deal with it. They are seized of the matter. But without having them it may not be possible to make any impact as far as smuggling is concerned.

†SALE OF FAKE CURRENCY NOTES

*611. **DR. BHAI MAHAVIR:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government have received any report from the State Governments concerned about a gang engaged in the sale of fake currency notes which was unearthed by the U P C I D and some arrests were made in that connection, and

(b) if so, what action has been taken against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K R GANESH): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Reports have been received from U P and Bihar Governments that on 9th November, 1972 the officers of the Economic Intelligence and Investigation Wing of the U P C I D, arrested 3 persons at Mughal Sarai Railway Station under the charge that they were engaged in criminal conspiracy for cheating innocent persons with inducement to part with genuine currency notes on the promise of tendering 4 times the value in fake currency notes. No fake currency notes were recovered from their possession at the time of arrest and even during investigation but the accused persons have confessed that they were engaged in deceiving people with the lure of fake currency notes. During investigation, another person of Patna has been arrested. No incriminating material relating to printing of fake currency notes except a wooden box from the

house of one of the accused persons has so far been seized or recovered by the police. A criminal case under Section 420/120B I.P.C. has been registered against the accused persons and the investigation is proceeding.

ड० भाई महवीर : श्रीमन्, जो वक्तव्य हमारे सामने रखा गया है वह सन्तोषजनक नहीं मालूम होता। सबसे पहली बात तो इसमें यह स्पष्ट है कि असलो नोटों के मूल्य का चार गुना बराबर जाली करेंसी नोट देने की पेशकश वे करते थे। इसमें क्या धोखा था अगर वे कहते हैं कि हम तुम्हें जाली करेंसी नोट देंगे। यह बात दूसरी है कि वे लोग जाली करेंसी नोट लाते कहां से हैं और कैसे बनाते हैं, उसमें षडयंत्र तो होगा, लेकिन उसमें अगर कोई कहे कि मैं तुम्हें कुछ रुपये के बदले में चीगुने जाली नोट दूंगा, इसमें हम क्या समझें कि इतना कहना धोखा था? इस कहने में तो मुझे कोई धोखा नजर नहीं आता क्योंकि जो जांच हुई है उसके अन्दर भी घर से एक लकड़ी का बक्सा मिलने के सिवाये पुलिस को अभी तक कोई जाली करेंसी नोट छापने का प्रबन्ध या कोई आपत्तिजनक सामग्री मिली नहीं। तो मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता कि क्या किसी के घर से लकड़ी का बक्सा मिलना भी जुर्म है ...

श्री सभापति : देखिये, आप सवाल इतना लम्बा मत कीजिये।

डा० भाई महवीर : ... और 1972 से अब तक जांच सन्तोषजनक नहीं हुई है, तो उसका कारण क्या है?

SHRI K. R. GANESH: Firstly, this racket was detected by the U.P. and Bihar Governments' intelligence agencies. Therefore, I can only communicate to the hon. Member and the House the information given by the U.P. and Bihar Police. What they have stated is this: There is a gang

of tricksters. They know this in the course of the inquiry that they conducted. There are certain other persons whom they have been able to catch. For instance, there is one Prithipal Singh who seems to be the leader of this gang. He had contacts with four or five other persons whose names are given. One is Girdhari Shah, resident of village Marwah, District Varanasi. Another one is Rajinder Singh, a suspended Sub-Inspector of Police of Bihar Government. There is yet another one Rajinder Singh Pal. On November 8, 1972 the UP police had surveillance on these people and they knew that these people were coming by the Assam Mail. Then they were brought to the police station and they were interrogated. According to the report that I have at my disposal, no fake currency note was found in their possession. They have been arrested and interrogation is still continuing. This is the information that I have got from the UP police.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: As I said, Sir, I have not been able to follow, and, perhaps the honourable Minister is unable to help us in this matter, because, if we have not recovered anything by which we can judge that they are engaged in printing fake currency notes, the whole thing might appear to be some sort of an eye-wash. If they have been able to conceal their really incriminating things, then all the inquiry will lead to nothing. My second question is: Is there any possibility, in view of this gang and such other gangs which are engaged in putting fake currency notes into circulation, that such fake currency notes are managed to be pushed into the stocks of soiled notes which the Reserve Bank destroys without proper scrutiny, without complete scrutiny? The Reserve Bank considers it enough if they check only 5 per cent such notes. So, is there any possibility of this, because the Reserve Bank staff has been agitating against this? I would like to know, if there is any possibility of such a thing, what the Government is doing to stop this type of clandestine use of fake currency

notes in place of genuine currency notes and having them destroyed after getting due value for them? I would like to know if there is any precaution being taken against this.

SHRI K. R. GANESH: In answer to the first part of the question, as I indicated, acting on the information that these people are indulging in this sort of trickstering business, the UP police apprehended these people and the matter is under investigation and only after the investigation is completed, we will be able to know what other fact we can have from them. Then, I think the apprehension that these fake currency notes which are seized from time to time are being injected into the Reserve Bank soiled notes under the procedure for destroying soiled notes which the Reserve Bank has adopted, is not correct. Even the rules of procedure of the Reserve Bank in this regard have been tightened so much and they are so fool proof that it will not be possible for this thing to be done.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: We are told only 5 per cent notes are checked. I only wanted to know if the Minister is sure of the facts, because only 5 per cent notes are reported to be checked. I do not think they have made the procedure very strict...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. He has answered the question.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Sir, there has been an agitation that without proper check soiled notes are being destroyed. He has not answered...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have not yet seen a question for you which has been fully answered.

SHRI S. D. MISRA: Sir, that is a compliment from you to the Minister.

SHRI SANDA NARAYANAPPA: Sir, this fake currency notes circulation has been a big racket and it has become very prominent in the entire country, not only in U.P. It is there in all other States also. In many places fake notes have been detected.

The question is not only of take notes being in circulation. On account of this, inflation is increasing in the country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are putting a general question...

SHRI SANDA NARAYANAPPA: I will come to the point...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Put your question, otherwise I will call the next Member...

SHRI SANDA NARAYANAPPA: Is the Government going to take active and effective steps to curb this kind of fake currency manufactured in the country, which is spoiling the entire economy of the country?

SHRI K. R. GANESH: Sir, from the CBI report about the seizure of fake currency during the last seven years, I will give some figures here. In 1970, 5037 notes of Rs. 10 denomination were seized, 659 of Rs. 5 denomination, 724 of Rs. 2 denomination; in 1971, 1069 of Rs. 10 denomination, 4579 of Rs. 5 denomination, 601 of Rs. 2 denomination; in 1972, 907 of Rs. 10 denomination, 129 of Rs. 5 denomination, 219 of Rs. 2 denomination; upto February 1973, 181 notes of Rs. 10 denomination, 31 of Rs. 5 denomination and 41 of Rs. 2 denomination.

Now, Sir, from these figures of seizures, we cannot come to the conclusion which the hon. Member has drawn that a huge amount of fake currency is in circulation.

श्री एस० डी० मिश्र: मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या उनको ये रिप्रेजेंटेशन मिले है कि यू० पी० और बिहार के नेपाल और चाइना से लगने वाले बार्डर पर फैक करेंसी काफी बढ़ातावाद में चाइना की ओर से बंदी है? एक बात। साथ ही साथ क्या यह भी उनको रिप्रेजेंटेशन मिला है... और उनकी नालेज में है कि कुछ पोलिटिकल पार्टीज इस कंट्री में हैं जिनको बाहर के देशों के लोग नोट प्रिंट करके

देते हैं और वे इस देश की पोलिटक्स में उसका इस्तेमाल करती हैं ? इन बातों का कृपया जवाब दिया जाये ।

SHRI K. R. GANESH: Sir, this has been checked up and enquiries from the CBI, from the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and from the State Governments show that there is no evidence to suggest that any foreign agency is involved in this racket.

श्रीमती लक्ष्मी कुमारी चूडावत : श्रीमन्, यह तो फेक करेन्सी इतनी चल रही है यह बाहर के मुल्कों में छपती है या हमारे मुल्क में छपती है, और अगर हमारे मुल्क में छपती है तो उसके छापने की मशीनों को क्या आज पकड़ा गया है ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH: These are printed in our own country. As I have said earlier, there is no foreign agency involved in this. From time to time, the State Government, the State Police, do raid these fake currency presses and their places where this is done.

Sir, I may give another information to the House that very recently the Delhi Police seized fake foreign currency and Indian currency to the tune of US \$ 22047.15 and Indian Rs. 69,500. Sir, in this connection, several persons have been arrested. The whole gang of operators has been discovered. These persons, who formerly belonged to Punjab, were involved in this racket and there are some ramifications in England. Interpol has been alerted.

CONVERSION DEAL WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES FOR NON-FERROUS METAL ITEMS

***692. SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has entered into a conversion deal with some foreign countries in regard to the export of non-ferrous metal items; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

***693. [The questioners (Shri Kalyan Roy, Dr. Z. A. Ahmad and Shri Bhola Prasad) were absent. For answer, vide col. 37 infra].**

DEVELOPMENT OF BANGALORE AERODROME

***694. SHRI SITARAM KESRI:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has recently taken over the Bangalore aerodrome from the Ministry of Defence;

(b) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for the development of the aerodrome as a new civil enclave; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SHRIMATI SAROJINI MAHISHI): (a) and (b) The Director General of Civil Aviation has taken over the existing terminal building and some adjoining land at the Bangalore aerodrome from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited for the development of a suitable civil enclave.

(c) The necessary plans are being worked out.

श्री सीताराम केशरी : अध्यक्ष जी, मैं मंत्री महोदया से यह भी पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जिस तरह का बंगलौर में एयरपोर्ट बन रहा है और उस पर इतना खर्च किया जा रहा है, उसी तरह का चूकि बंगलौर मसूर स्टेट का कैपिटल है, और पंजाब भी हिंदार स्टेट का कैपिटल है, क्या मैं आशा करूँ कि इसी तरह का वहाँ भी एयरपोर्ट आप बनायेंगे ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly confine yourself to the question. The question relates to Bangalore Aerodrome. All right, the question is ruled out.