

flats of each type and in each area were put into one Scheme and separate draw of lots was made for each Scheme; now flats on plots of 150 Sq. Yds. both in Safdarjang and East of Kailash, are put in one Scheme and the flats on plots of 125 Sq. Yds. in both localities are included in another scheme.

(c) This is expected to eliminate the possibility of too many persons applying for flats in one particular area.

#### PROSECUTION AGAINST VIOLATION OF CUSTOMS RULES

\*173. SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of cases initiated by the Customs Department for violation of Customs Rules against various persons during the years 1966, 1967 and 1968;

(b) the total number of cases in which prosecution proceedings have already been launched;

(c) whether there are certain cases where even show cause notices have not been served and cases have not been prepared or presented in courts; and

(d) if so, the reasons for the delay in initiating proceedings against the persons concerned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : (a) to (d) Information in this regard is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

#### CONTRIBUTION TO THE NATIONAL INCOME BY THE COMPANIES

\*174. SHRI M. K. MOHTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question No. 744 given in the Rajya Sabha on 24th December, 1968 and state the total output of the companies which made remittances abroad since 1961-62 on account of profits and dividends, royalties and technical know-how fees and their contribution to the national income ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : The information is not readily available. Efforts are being made to collect the information which will be

laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha to the extent it is available.

#### MAKING OF FINANCE COMMISSION A PERMANENT BODY ?

\*175. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to amend the Constitution to make the Finance Commission a permanent body without any periodical change ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : There is no such proposal under consideration of Government. However, the Administrative Reforms Commission is considering the Centre-State relationship in all its aspects.

#### AGRICULTURAL INCOME-TAX

\*176. DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Governors during their two day conference in November last, suggested for the imposition of agricultural income-tax for resource mobilisation ; and

(b) if so, whether the Central Government contemplate some alternative measures for tapping the agricultural sector ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAGANATH PAHADIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### FOOD ADULTERATION ACT

\*177. SHRI T. SIDDALINGAYA : Will the Minister of HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Prevention of Food Adulteration Act is being fully utilised to tighten the menace of food adulteration;

(b) what improvements have been brought about in this direction;

(c) whether any assessment or evaluation of its operation has been made; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI K. K. SHAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. (See below).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The percentage of samples found adulterated during the years 1966 and 1967 has come down to 25.5 and 25.1 respectively as against 29.8 to 31.1 during the years 1962 to 1965. A larger number of offenders were imprisoned during 1966 and 1967 as compared to the previous years.

#### STATEMENT

The provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act have been made more stringent by amendment to the Act and the States have been asked to ensure proper enforcement of the Act.

The salient features of the amendments made, which came into effect from 1-3-65, are as follows :—

1. Punishments have been made more deterrent. The minimum punishments now prescribed for cases of adulteration is imprisonment of not less than six months and a fine of not less than Rs. 1,000/- except that in cases of misbranding or substandard, the discretion has been left to the courts.

2. The manufacturer, distributor or dealer of an article of food has to give a warranty compulsorily in writing about the nature and quality of the article to the vendor.

3. The court has been empowered to proceed against a manufacturer, distributor or dealer if during the trial of any offence. The court is satisfied on the evidence adduced before it that such manufacturer, distributor or dealer is also concerned with that offence.

4. The presence of only one witness at the time of drawing of the sample has now been made essential instead of two witnesses as previously prescribed.

5. Provision has been made for an indemnity bond equivalent to the value of

the article seized by the food inspector when the goods are kept in the custody of the vendor. A heavy penalty has been provided in case of infringement.

6. Concurrent powers have been given to the Central Government to appoint food inspectors and public analysts, thus enabling the Central Government for better and effective implementation of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act.

#### कोचीन के निकट सोने तथा घड़ियों का पकड़ा जाना

\* 178. श्री राम सहाय : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि 10 जनवरी, 1969 के आस-पास कोचीन के निकट सरकार द्वारा लगभग 82 लाख रुपये का सोना तथा घड़ियां पकड़ी गई थीं और यदि हां, तो वह सोना तथा घड़ियां किस देश में लाई गई थीं और इस सम्बन्ध में कितने व्यक्ति गिरफ्तार किये गये थे और वे किम-किम देश के नागरिक हैं; और

(ख) क्या कोई भारतीय नागरिक भी गिरफ्तार किया गया था, यदि हां, तो वह कहा का है और उसकी मौलवी हालत कैसी है ?

#### † [SEIZURE OF GOLD AND WATCHES NEAR COCHIN]

\* 178. SHRI RAM SAHAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that gold and watches worth about Rupees 82 lakhs were seized by Government near Cochin on or about 10th January, 1969; and if so, from which country the gold and watches were brought and how many persons were arrested in this regard and what are their nationalities; and

(b) whether any Indian national was also arrested; if so, to which place he belongs and what is his financial position ?]

† [ ] English translation.