

RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 11th May, 1966/rfce list
Vaisakha, 1888 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, MR.
CHAIRMAN in the chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

HAUL OF GOLD AND DIAMONDS

-161. Jⁿ SHRI ABDUL GHANI: \
SHRI NEKI RAM :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in "The Free Press Bulletin, Bombay" dated Friday, the 8th April, 1966 on page 4 under the heading "Alleged Haul of Gold, Diamonds";

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any step to bring out the real facts into light; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Different newspapers have published varying reports regarding the extent of gold and jewellery seized. Most of these reports are highly exaggerated. Government have not issued any press communique contradicting these reports, or giving the correct position. According to present official estimates the value of assets and undisclosed loans revealed by the searches is Rs. 17.67 lakhs.

شری عبدالغنی : کیا وزیر صاحب
فرمائینگے کہ یہ جو زیورات اور دوسری
چیزیں ملی ہیں وہ کس کی کسٹی
میں رکھی گئی ہیں اور اس پر
انکم ٹیکس والوں نے کوئی رقم لگائی
کہ اتنا ان پر ٹیکس لگایا جائے؟

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Abdul Ghani.

†[श्री अब्दुल घनी : क्या वजीर साहब
फरमाएंगे कि यह जो जेवराह और दूसरी
चीजें मिली हैं वह किसकी कस्टडी में रखी
गई हैं और इस पर इन्कम टैक्स वालों ने कोई
रकम लगाई कि इतना इन पर टैक्स लगाया
जाये ?]

श्री बी० आर० भगत : यह चीज तो
सरकार के कस्टडी में होगी और किस के पास
है, इस वक्त यह बतलाना मुश्किल है। इस पर
कितना टैक्स लगेगा, यह बात तहकीकात
के बाद ही तय की जायेगी कि उस पर इतना
टैक्स लगाया जा सकता है।

شری عبدالغنی : کیا وزیر صاحب
فرمائینگے کہ جس نے اس بارے میں
رپورٹ کی کہ وہاں پر زیورات ہیں
وہ کس نے کی اور اس نے کتنی رپورٹ
کی ہے کہ کتنے ہیں۔ اگر اس کی
رپورٹ کروڑوں روپیئے کے بارے
میں تھی تو باقی کیا چھپا لیا گیا
ہے یا اتنا ہی حاصل ہوا ہے؟

†[श्री अब्दुल घनी : क्या वजीर साहब
फरमाएंगे कि जिसने इस बारे में रिपोर्ट की
कि वहां पर जेवराह हैं वह किस ने की और
उसने कितनी रिपोर्ट की है कि कितने हैं।
अगर इसकी रिपोर्ट करोड़ों रुपये के बारे में
थी तो बाकी क्या छिपा लिया गया है।
या इतना ही हासिल हुआ है ?]

श्री बी० आर० भगत : जो था वह पकड़ा
गया और जो नहीं था वह नहीं मिला। किसने
इसकी रिपोर्ट दी, इसके बारे में मेरे पास नाम
नहीं है।

†[] Hindi transliteration.

شری عبدالغنی : کیا یہ سچ ہے کہ جو انکم ٹیکس وائے اس کی انکوائری کر رہے ہیں ان کے کسی رشتہ دار نے یہ رپورٹ سرکار کو دی ہے۔

†[श्री अब्दुल गनी : क्या यह सच है कि जो इन्कम टैक्स वाले इसकी इन्क्वायरी कर रहे हैं उनके किसी रिश्तेदार ने यह रिपोर्ट सरकार को दी ?]

श्री बी० आर० भगत : यह तो मालूम करने ही बतलाया जा सकता है। मेरे पास कोई खबर नहीं है।

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: I would like to know whether the hon. Minister can disclose the name of the person from whom this recovery of gold and diamonds has been made.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: The name has been already disclosed. It relates to Mr. Chiranjitlal Goenka.

SEIZURE OF GOLD

*162. DR. SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the number of raids for the seizure of gold conducted in 1965 and how many persons were arrested and convicted in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): 3,528 raids were conducted in 1965. 191 persons were arrested and 16 persons convicted.

DR. SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA: May I know, Sir, for how many years or months imprisonment was given to these people and, another point, how many of those who were arrested before 1965 were released or convicted during the year 1965?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: This relates to only 1965. As for figures relating to 1964, I will have to get fresh notice.

{ } Hindi transliteration.

DR. SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA: I wanted to know for how many days, months or years they were given conviction during 1965.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: That will be different in each case. I will have to get the information which will have to be collected.

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: May I know, Sir, what is the quantity of gold seized during these 3,000 raids?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: It is 15,98,152 grams.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know, Sir, whether all the 3,000 odd raids resulted in seizure of gold or some of them were infructuous?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Most of them resulted in seizure of gold, although some of them were infructuous.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Is it not a fact that raids were carried out only when Government got reliable information from authentic sources and, if so, why was it that some of the raids proved to be useless?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: A few of them. We take due care to see that the information is reliable. We sift it, we go into it, and only when we are convinced, the machinery at the highest level is convinced that the information is correct, we go into it. But as human failures, some cases, of course, were fruitless.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: In how many cases?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Well, I have to get notice for giving the exact number, but they are a few cases only.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: May I know whether any prominent businessman's or industrialist's house has been raided and, if so, his name and the gold recovered from him?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: It is very difficult to give the names in all the cases and to determine who is prominent.