

decline as compared to the previous half year; and

(c) what action Government propose to take to arrest smuggling of gold to help save foreign exchange resources?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a) The value of gold seized while being smuggled from Pakistan during the period January to the middle of June 1962 was Rs. 1,30,620/-.

(b) There is no indication that the smuggling of gold on the Indo-Pakistan border is on the increase. The amount of gold seized while being smuggled across this border during the last six months has been slightly less than that seized during the previous six months;

(c) Government have already adopted various legislative and executive measures to combat smuggling. These include (i) the systematic rummaging of suspected vessels and aircraft and patrolling of the coast-line and land borders; (ii) the use of a scientific instrument called the 'metal detector' for detecting concealed gold; (iii) a Directorate of Revenue Intelligence at the Centre to consolidate more effectively the anti-smuggling activities of the various field organisations and (iv) in addition to heavy penalties imposed under the Sea Customs Act, which include the confiscation of the contraband, prosecutions in deserving cases so as to render the punishment really deterrent.

It is also proposed to amend the Customs Law suitably so as to enable the customs officials to deal more effectively with smuggling; certain provisions to this end have been included in the Customs Bill, 1962, which was recently introduced in Parliament.

SRI AUROBINDO INTERNATIONAL CENTRE OF EDUCATION

***318. SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY:** Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the members of the Committee appointed to examine the question of recognition of diplomas awarded by Sri Aurobindo International Centre of Education, Pondicherry; and

(b) whether the Higher Course of the Centre has been recognised as equivalent to the B.Sc. degrees of other Indian universities?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): (a) The names of the members are:

(1) (Late) Prof. N. K. Sidhanta, then Vice-Chancellor, Delhi University.

(2) Shri R. R. Diwakar.

(3) Shrimati Muriel Wasi, Deputy Educational Adviser, Ministry of Education.

(b) The question of recognition of the "Higher Course" of the Centre as equivalent to B.A./BSc., degrees of Indian Universities for purposes of employment to posts under the Central Government, is under the consideration of the Government of India.

ASSISTANCE FOR HOLDING WORKSHOPS, SUMMER SCHOOLS AND LEARNED SOCIETIES

***319. SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY:** Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assistance for (i) holding workshops and summer schools and (ii) convening learned societies has so far been given to the Universities of Gujarat, Delhi, Kerala and Utkal;