

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know whether the Government has received any complaint that some Indian goods for which an export licence was never given are being sold in the Pakistan market?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I cannot answer a general question. If the hon. Member has any specific case in mind . . .

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: I simply wanted to know whether the Government had received any such complaint or not.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I am *not* aware of that.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that a lot of smuggling is going on from the desert and hilly areas of Rajasthan?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Some smuggling is going on. But so far as our figure indicates both on the western border with Pakistan as well as on the eastern border, smuggling, as indicated by the seizure, is going down.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know if the hon. Minister has received any complaint that some Indian textiles and also some foodgrains are being smuggled regularly?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: So far, the goods seized are luxury goods like gold, silver, currency, blades, etc., etc. We have not got any such information regarding foodgrains.

#### **BRANCH OFFICE OF THE IRON AND STEEL CONTROLLER AT HUBLI**

\*215. SHRI M. S. GURUPADA SWAMY: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to open a branch office of the Iron and Steel Controller's Office at Hubli; and

(b) if so, when it is likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND FUEL (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADA SWAMY: In view of the fact that this long delay has been caused in disposing of the applications, will the Ministry think at least now of opening a branch office at Hubli?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is a suggestion for action.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: That is right, Sir.

#### **MINISTERS ON FOREIGN TOUR**

\*216. SHRI M. S. GURUPADA SWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) the names and number of Ministers who went abroad during the last six months;

(b) the purpose of their visit; and

(c) the amount of foreign exchange allotted to and spent by them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA): (a) to (c). A statement containing the information available so far is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XXX, Annexure No. 15.] The remaining information will be furnished to the House, when ready.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADA SWAMY: From the statement I find that nearly 50 per cent, of the Ministers were touring in foreign countries during these six months and there seem, also to be a very unhealthy competition among the Ministers to go abroad. In view of the fact that we are already