

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, whether the 'Mahendra Rajpath' which was constructed by the Indian Government has been handed over to the Nepal Government?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: It is not 'Mahendra Rajpath'—it is Tribhuvan Rajpath'. This project is completed and has been handed over to the Government of Nepal.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know what was its cost?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I think it is a little over Rs. 3 crores.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: I did not follow. I should like to know whether the entire Rs. 10 crores will be granted as loan; if not, how much of it will be a grant and how much loan?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: It is grant.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know if the rice which is being supplied to Nepal is also a part of that Rs. 10 crores?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: No, Sir. We have supplied it prior to 1956. As I said, this Plan began in 1956. We have given them aid before that also and we have supplied rice to Nepal worth about, I think, Rs. 42 lakhs. I do not know if we have supplied any rice—these details I do not know—during this period.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: Has Government any information as to how much help Nepal is receiving for this type of work from other countries?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: At present, I think, the U.S. Government is having some negotiations with them; and it is difficult—unless the negotiations are completed and agreement signed—to say what actual help they will get. But apart from the U.S. Government, the Chinese Government have also announced the grant of aid.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What is the total amount the Nepal Government

j has estimated for their Five Year 1 Plan, for which we are contributing Rs. 10 crores?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: It is hardly for me to answer about the Nepal Government, but I think it is about j Rs. 33 crores.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: Since j we have invested in the construction of j the Gaucher airfield, may I know, Sir, whether the Indian Airlines Corporation has any rights over it?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: About the rights, I cannot say. It is a highly complicated question.

SMUGGLING OF GOLD AND CURRENCY NOTES FROM PAKISTAN

*432. SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: Will the Minister, of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons arrested so far during 1957 for smuggling gold and currency notes at Amritsar and the adjoining border from Pakistan;

(b) the amount of gold and currency notes seized from them; and

(c) the number of foreign nationals arrested so far during 1957 for such smuggling?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a) The number of persons arrested so far during 1957 (up to 31st July, 1957) for smuggling gold and currency notes at Amritsar and adjoining border from Pakistan is 208.

! (b) Gold amounting to 7,887 tolas and currency notes worth Rs. 531 were seized from them.

(c) The number of foreign nationals arrested for such smuggling so far during 1957 (up to 31st July, 1957) is 23.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, whether out of these nationals, some are Americans; some are

Italians; some one is private secretary to the Cuban Ambassador in Brussels.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: They belong to various nationalities. I think there is an American; a Cuban too; some Pakistanis; and other nationalities too.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know if it is a fact that gold worth Rs. 26 lakhs was found in Ahmedabad.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: There is another question coming on this. I will deal with that then.

श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या यह सच है कि ये लोग यहाँ से जाली बने हुए नोट के बदले में पाकिस्तान से सोना लेते थे, और कुछ नोट पकड़े भी गये। अगर यह बात थी और जाली नोटों के बदले में सोना लेते थे तो सरकार को इसमें कोई ऐतराज करने की क्या जरूरत थी ?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I take that information from the hon. Member.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know what does the currency which has been mentioned by the hon. Minister, Rs. 531, mean. Is it so many lakhs, thousands, hundreds or what is it?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: It is only Rs. 531, nothing more.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: Is it not a fact that Indian currency to the tune of Rs. 1 lakh was also found in Amritsar?

"SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: The value of Indian currency was much more than Rs. 1 lakh.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: What was the Indian currency . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: That will do.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: I wanted to know whether it is a fact that the gold was smuggled into India and it was taken away in Government cars and also cars having the national flags?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Which Government.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Indian Government.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I do not think so.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know, Sir, if some M.L.As. from Rajasthan and Punjab were also involved in this.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Not that I am aware of.

सरदार रघुबीर सिंह पंधरवारी : क्या स्मगलिंग के मिलसिले में कुछ पुलिस आफिसर भी पकड़े गये थे और अगर पकड़े गये तो उनके खिलाफ क्या ऐक्शन लिया गया ?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: No, Sir. No police officer has been arrested.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND: The hon. Minister knows that in the newspaper a report was given that some Minister's son was involved in the smuggling. Have the Government made any Investigations?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is a different question.

SEIZURE OF CONTRABAND GOLD IN THE KAN KARIA LAKE AREA OF AHMEDABAD

*433. SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a house in the Kan Karia Lake area of Ahmedabad was raided on or about the 30th July, 1957 for contraband gold; and

(b) if so, what is the quantity of gold seized there and the number of persons arrested in that connection?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir. A house located in Kan Karia lake area of Ahmedabad was searched by Customs officials on the 31st July, 1957 for contraband gold.