

is maintained to curb smuggling of drugs. The matter is kept under constant review. A new Act has since been passed which provides deterrent penalties for offences connected with trafficking in drugs.

(d) The officers responsible for making the seizures of narcotic drugs are paid rewards under the reward scheme of the Government.

#### Smuggling of Indian Drugs into Bangladesh

970. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that drugs manufactured in India find their way through Pakistan into the stores of Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the efforts Government have made in this regard to check such smuggling taking place from India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Reports received by the Government do not indicate that drugs manufactured in India find their way through Pakistan into Bangladesh.

(c) The anti-smuggling drive has been intensified. The Customs field formations remain vigilant against smuggling activities across the borders. The preventive and intelligence machinery of the Customs Department has been reinforced in terms of man-power and equipment in the areas vulnerable to smuggling. The trends in smuggling and seizures made are kept under constant review for taking appropriate anti-smuggling measures in close co-ordination with the concerned Central and State Government authorities.

[*Translation*]

#### Recommendations of Abid Hussain Committee on Foreign Trade

971. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL :

SHRI S.M. BHATTAM :

SHRI R.P. DAS :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be

pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received the recommendations of Abid Hussain Committee on trade policy;

(b) if so, the important recommendations in regard to the implementation of which Government have taken a decisions;

(c) the time by which Government intend to implement their recommendations; and

(d) if some recommendations are not proposed to be implemented the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The Government has by and large accepted the recommendations of the Committee and they are in various stages of implementation. Copies of the Report have been made available to the Library of Parliament.

[*English*]

#### Achievements of Rural Banks in Bihar

972. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the achievements of the rural banks in Bihar during the Sixth Five Year Plan and also the position with regard to loan recovery ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : As per information received from National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, during the Sixth Five Year Plan, 11 more Regional Rural Banks were established in Bihar taking the aggregate number of Regional Rural Banks to 22 covering 37 districts in the State. The achievements of the Regional Rural Banks in Bihar during