

(c) Does not arise.

Industrial Sickness

7036. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry has suggested changes in Foreign Exchange Regulation Act to enable healthy Companies to absorb sick industrial units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act is also proposed to be amended to facilitate the absorption of sick industrial units by healthy companies; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government in regard to parts (a) and (c) above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) and (b). No suggestion has been made by Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry to Government under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act to enable healthy companies to absorb sick industrial units. However, in a background paper published by ASSOCHAM on 'Industrial Sickness Causes and Remedies', it has been indicated inter-alia while discussing provisions under Section 72 A of Income Tax Act that if objective was revival of a sick unit, no discrimination need be made to MRTP/ FERA companies.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Loan from Japan

7037. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any of credits extended recently by Japan is proposed to be used to set up joint export ventures to earn foreign exchange to repay these loans; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) and (b). No, Madam. The credits are meant for general financing needs for project imports from Japan as well as other countries.

Indian Trade Exhibition in Kathmandu

7038 SHRI H.A. DORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether an Indian Trade Exhibition was recently inaugurated in Kathmandu, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) and (b). The Trade Fair authority of India organised an Indian Trade Exhibition in Kathmandu (Nepal) during March 7-17, 1988 which was inaugurated by His Majesty, the King of Nepal. The exhibition was organised over an area of 3,300 sq. mts. and nearly 60 Indian companies from public and private sectors participated. The business booked as reported by participants amounted to Rs. 19.15 lakhs and the trade enquiries received were 811. The items which attracted business and trade enquiries related to com-

pressors, Pump-sets, printing machines, lathes, electronic typewriters, trucks and buses, plastics machinery, portable generators, construction projects, mini cement plants, LPG gas cylinders, paddy husker, etc.

Position of India in World Shrimp Export

7039. SHRI H.A. DORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is the World's largest exporter of shrimp in terms of quantity; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) and (b). According to FAO statistics published upto 1985, in quantitative terms India was the largest exporter of shrimps in the world. India continued to be a leading shrimp supplying country to World markets like Japan, USA and EEC during 1986. (Source: MPEDA, Cochin.)

Arrest of Customs Department Officials for Smuggling Gold

7040. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the persons from the Customs Department posted at air and sea ports are also arrested as and when found involved in the smuggling of gold and other contraband goods;

(b) if so, the number of such persons arrested during the last one year; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two such persons have been arrested during the calendar year, 1987.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Seizure of Foreign Exchange at Bombay International Airport

7041. SHRI MADAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the revenue intelligence unit had seized some amount of foreign exchange at Bombay international airport during December, 1987;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of the persons from whom the foreign exchange seized; and

(c) the action taken by Government against those persons so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). On 17th/18th December, 1987, the officials of the Directorate of revenue intelligence seized U.S dollars 20,000 from a passenger named. Aslam Ali Hussein Kapade bound for Dubai, at Sahar International Airport , Bombay. The foreign currency had been concealed inside his rectum. The passenger has been arrested.