

achieve speedy results in the field of Social Welfare ; and

(b) if so, the progress achieved in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI K. S. RAMASWAMY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

**Financial Assistance to Thavanur Rural Institute (Kerala)**

2601. SHRI M. K. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have reduced the quantum of financial assistance to the Thavanur Rural Institute Thavanur, District Palghat (Kerala) if so, the reasons for the same ;

(b) whether Government propose to fix a reasonable quantum of financial assistance to the Institute ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAVA) : (a) There is a no decrease in the annual recurring grant to the Institute.

(b) and (c). Grants to the various Rural Institutes including the Thavanur Rural Institute for recurring expenditure are determined annually on the basis of the approved posts, number of students on rolls and the courses offered, keeping in view the pattern of Central assistance. It is not possible to fix a block grant under the scheme of assistance to Rural Institutes.

**Smuggling of gold into India and Silver out of the Country**

2602. SHRI S. R. DAMANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated quantity and value of gold smuggled into the country and of

silver smuggled out of the country every year ;

(b) The number of seizures effected in the year 1970-71 and the value of gold smuggled into the country and of silver smuggled out of India ; and

(c) whether Government have thought of any foolproof method of checking such illegal activities and if so, the particulars thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) It is not practicable to make a reliable estimate of the quantity and value of gold smuggled into India and of silver smuggled out of India every year.

(b) The number of seizures effected by the Customs authorities during 1970-71 was 1019. The quantity and value of the gold and silver seized during this period was as indicated below :—

Commodity	Quantity seized	Value (Rs. lakhs)	
		At international monetary rate.	At Indian market rate
Gold	4,668	394	794
Silver	37,376	—	199

(c) In view of the size of the country with its long frontiers and coastline, working out of a foolproof method of checking smuggling of goods into and out of the country presents many intractable problems. However, various administrative, legislative and economic measures have been taken to combat smuggling. Some of the important measures taken by the Government are as under. Systematic collection and follow-up of information, keeping a watchful eye on the suspected smugglers, rummaging of suspected vessels or aircraft and patrolling of