

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पांडे : क्या मंत्री महोदय इस बात की जांच करायेंगे कि हिन्दुस्तान के रहने वाले लोग भारत-नेपाल सीमा पर जा कर नाना प्रकार की स्मगलिंग का काम करते हैं और वे वहाँ के अधिकारियों से मिल के स्मगलिंग का सामान हिन्दुस्तान में लाते हैं, जिसमें सस्ते चाईनीज गुड्ज भी होते हैं जो यहाँ मंहगे बिकते हैं ? क्या ऐसा धंधा चल रहा है, जिसमें सरकारी अधिकारी का इंडियन विजिनेशनरी दांडर पर दुकान खोल कर नेपाल से हिन्दुस्तान में स्मगलिंग कर रहे हैं ? क्या मंत्री महोदय इस की जांच करायेंगे और उचित एक्शन लेंगे ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Member is only giving some information.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : He is giving information. The new collectorate has been constituted only for stopping this menace.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : The hon. Member has already stated that in view of the large-scale smuggling trade on the Indo-Nepal border, this new collectorate has been established at Patna, and the revenue as a result of the seizure of smuggled goods has gone up from Rs. 3 to 7 lakhs. This has been going on since a long time. Which are the elements inside India which are responsible for this trade, and what steps have Government taken to prevent it ? Have Government information regarding the big people who are engaged in this trade ? If Government have no information, then it is useless to discuss this matter.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : It is obvious that smugglers and antisocial elements are involved in this collectorate has been formed so that we may keep a close watch on them, have the revenue intelligence and strike hard on them.

Seizure of Smuggled Watches in Bombay

*430. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether wrist watches worth Rs. 14 lakhs were seized in Bombay on the 13th

July, 1972;

(b) whether any foreigners were also involved in this case; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken against those held responsible ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) On the basis of information received, the Customs authorities at Bombay seized wrist watches and watch straps collectively valued at about Rs. 54 lakhs at Indian market price on 12.7.72.

(b) Enquiries made so far do not reveal the involvement of any foreigner on the Indian side

(c) One person was arrested in this connection and subsequently released on a bail of Rs. one lakh.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : May I know the total number of cases of smuggling detected during 1971-72 and how the smuggled goods are disposed of ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I have here some figures of.....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The main question is a specific question with regard to a particular seizure. The hon. Minister may supply the figures to the hon. Member.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I shall do that.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA : The second part of the question is relevant.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What is the second part of the question ?

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : How are these smuggled goods disposed of ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : This itself is a very wide question. These watches are seized, and a proper procedure is followed. Adjudication and all other things will be there.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : They have not been disposed of.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA : He is asking for the procedure of disposal.

SHRI K.R. GANESH : The stage for taking these things under government control has not yet come. They have been seized. In every seizure, the procedure is followed and according to government regulations, these are disposed of.

If he tables a separate question about the procedure, I will answer it.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : What is the procedure Government propose to follow to check smuggling ?

SHRI K.R. GANESH : Various measures have been taken. I have indicated these in reply to a number of questions. The administrative machinery has been strengthened, vehicles and other materials necessary for checking smuggling have been given, some crafts have been given; legislative measures have also been taken. Deterrent punishment has been provided; the law has been further strengthened.

SHRI SUBODH HANSDA : In this case, only one person has been arrested and released on bail for Rs. 1 lakh. When the cost of the watches is Rs. 54 lakhs, was only one person involved or are there some others also who have not been arrested ?

SHRI K.R. GANESH : The matter is under investigation.

SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA : Is there any proposal under consideration to make the punishment more stringent in view of the fact that smuggling is on the increase ?

SHRI K.R. GANESH : This is under consideration of Government.

SHRIMATI MAYA RAY : Would the hon. Minister kindly tell us what happens to these smuggled goods eventually ?

SHRI S.M. BANERJEE : We get them from the Super Market.

SHRI K.R. GANESH : These are disposed of through the national co-operative societies and also given to various organisations like the Central Government canteens, Central Government co-operative organisations etc. A separate committee was set up which has gone into the whole question of disposal of these smuggled goods.

Their report is under Government's examination. We are in touch with the Ministry of Co-operation to find out what better methods could be evolved.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Is it or is it not a fact that on the whole, smuggling is very much on the increase and smuggling of watches has also increased in recent years ?

SHRI K.R. GANESH : It is true that smuggling is a very serious problem and has to be seriously tackled (*Interruptions*). I do not know when the word 'smuggling' is mentioned he smiles. We do not know who are the smugglers. We have to catch them. But the facts I have with me indicate that as far as watches and certain other things are concerned, there has been a decrease in smuggling.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Sir, I need your protection. My question was very specific.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You asked whether it has increased. He says no.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : This is a question of his IQ. He always talks of the IQ. I want to know, is it or is it not a fact that smuggling on the whole is increasing very much.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He has replied to it.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : He has not. My question was whether smuggling in watches has increased or not.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He has said it has not increased.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : He has not said.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I think I heard him saying that the figures show that smuggling in watches did not show an increase.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Let us not go in for trouble. He has not answered—

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Order please. Well, you can answer him.

SHRI K.R. GANESH : If the hon. Member puts a separate question on the general issue—*(Interruptions)*—Please listen. This is a specific question relating to a specific seizure. Let him put a separate question on the entire question of smuggling. I am prepared to answer all his questions.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri. Lakkappa.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : His answer confirms that he has not replied to my specific question.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Order, please. It should not develop into a kind of warfare between two Members. Shri Lakkappa.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA : Sir, the city of Bombay has become a smugglers' paradise in India. So far as the particular instance concerning Rs. 54 lakhs is concerned, the Minister has answered that only one single person has been involved in it. I would like to know whether it is a fact that certain officers belonging to the foreign embassies of our country in the Gulf States are definitely behind the particular smuggling of the 13th July, 1972 and some top officers of the customs are involved in the smuggling—

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please ask your question.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA : May I know whether any officer has been apprehended and any officers in the customs department have been involved in the smuggling and, if so, what action has been taken by the Ministry to investigate into it and go into the matter?

SHRI K.R. GANESH : As I indicated, one person has been arrested. The whole matter is now under investigation. The whole matter will now be gone into and at the moment we do not have any information that any officer is involved in it.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS rose—

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will give chances to those who have not asked questions. Shri D.N. Tiwary.

श्री डी.एन. तिवारी : यह देखने में आया है कि जहाँ जहाँ आप ने प्रीवेंटिव मेजर्स को स्ट्रन्थन किया है, या नयी यूनिट्स खोली हैं, जैसे रक्सील या पटना में वहाँ वहाँ इन्सिडेंट बढ़ता जाता है। तो.....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This relates to Bombay; to a specific case of Bombay.

SHRI D.N. TIWARY : In Bombay and other places also.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No, no. This relates to Bombay only.

श्री डी.एन. तिवारी : जहाँ जहाँ आप ने स्ट्रन्थन किया है वहाँ इन्सिडेंट बढ़ता जाता है। तो क्या यह जो प्रीवेंटिव मेजर्स आप ने लिये हैं उस में कनाइव्स होती हैं, या इन्सिडेंट इतना ज्यादा है कि पहले पकड़ा नहीं जाता था, अब पकड़ा जाने लगा है, इसलिये ये केसेज ज्यादा सामने आने लगे हैं।

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This is much beyond the scope. This relates to Bombay only.

SHRI D.N. TIWARY : May I know whether at Bombay or at any other places wherever the preventive measure have been taken and the staff strengthened, such incidents have increased and the whether it is due to the connivance of the staff that so many incidents have occurred and the concerned people are not being caught?

SHRI K.R. GANESH : The hon. Member probably refers to the answer which I gave earlier in regard to another question, that as a result of new preventive collectorate having been formed, the number of seizures and the value of the seized goods have increased. The collectorate was formed only with this object in view. Because there was no separate collectorate, we could not check these cases. Accordingly, in other places also, where the machinery has been strengthened, where new units have been set up, where intelligence agencies have been organised, where the necessary equipment has been given to the customs staff, there has been an increase in the number of seizures as well as the value thereof.

श्रीमती सहोदरादाई राय : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं जानना चाहती हूँ कि जो 54 लाख का माल बम्बई में पकड़ा गया है उस में महिलायें कितनी पकड़ी गयीं ? और जो महिलायें बाहर से आती हैं, विदेशों से आती हैं वे ऐसा बहुत सा सामान अपने साथ लाती हैं, और यहाँ बेचती हैं, तो ऐसी महिलायें पकड़ी गयी हैं कि नहीं ?

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Any lady has been arrested ?

SHRI K R GANESH No, Sir

Opening of Air Force Recruiting Centres in States

*431 SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state

(a) whether there are no Air Force

recruiting Centres in many States of the country,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the names of the States where such Centres do not exist, and

(c) whether Government propose to open Air Force Recruiting Centres in these States and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) (a) to (c) There are 12 Air Force Recruiting Centres covering the entire country on Zonal basis. The Recruiting Centres are not established State wise. The Recruiting Centres are established according to administrative convenience and economy. The Recruiting Officer tours various places within the Zone and also conducts recruitment locally. A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

There are 12 Air Force Recruiting Centres covering the entire country on zonal basis. Their location and area covered by each Recruiting centre is as follow —

Sl No	Name of Recruiting Centre	Areas covered by the each Recruiting Centre
1	Ambala	Jammu & Kashmir State, Punjab State, Himachal Pradesh State, Union Territory of Chandigarh and Haryana State (less Rohtak and Gurgaon Districts)
2	Bangalore	Kerala State & Mysore State
3	Bombay	Maharashtra and Gujarat, Goa, Daman and Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli
4	Bhubaneswar	Orissa State.
5	Calcutta	West Bengal State
6	Delhi	Union Territory of Delhi, Gurgaon and Rohtak Districts of Haryana, Bareilly, Kumaon and Meerut Divisions, Mathura and Aligarh Districts of U.P.
7	Begumpet	Andhra Pradesh.