

(Translation)

**Excise Duty Concessions**

\*62. DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI:  
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIR AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Government have recently held talks with the trade and industrial organisations for passing on to the consumers the benefits of the concessions in excise duty given to them;

(b) if so, the outcome of the talks;

(c) whether the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices has given a report regarding passing on these concessions to consumers;

(d) if, so, the extent of decrease registered in the prices of those consumer items on which concessions have been allowed in the excise duty in the budget of 1993-94 and;

(e) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

(English)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED)

(a) to (e) : A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Statement**

(a) and (b) Two meetings with major trade and industry  
2560 LSS/94—2

organisations and representatives of Consumer organisations were taken by the Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution on 20th April and 7th June, 1993. In the meetings, the need to respond positively to Government's policy and pass on the concessions given to the Consumers was brought out. The industry representatives claimed in the meetings that they have passed on the concessions to the Consumers; however the consumer organisations disputed their claim. This Ministry have no facility to ascertain the exact impact of the excise concessions and other components on price fixation considering the wide range of concessions given and large number of products involved. The issue was therefore, referred to the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices for making a quick study of 10 commonly used consumer articles and to submit a report to the Government.

(c) to (e) : The Ministry has received the report from the BICP. The report has pointed out that out of the 10 items taken up for study, 3 main industries, namely, the drugs, manmade fibres and cosmetics have not passed on the excise duty concession in full to the consumers. With regard to "PVC resin industry" and Tooth Powder the report indicated that only 2 companies provided the information and they had passed on the concessions. In respect of others no conclusion could be arrived at as the required information was not made available by the manufacturers. In respect of other 4  
(Contd. on P. No. 43)

## STATEMENT

*Details of Maximum Retail Prices on various dates of Price Revisions*

Company's Name	Product	Pack size	date	Pre-Budget	
				Price	Date
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Alembic Chemical Works Co. Ltd.	Non-schedule Drugs				
	Alcizon 500 g	Vial			9-3-92
	Alcizon 1 g	vial	Data not furnished		9-3-92
	Ciprowin 250 mg	4 Tab			7-3-92
	Ciprowin 500 mg	4 Tab			7-3-92
	Ceprowin Inj	100 ML			7-3-92
	Hermin inj	200 ML			
	Kanuin inj	vial			7-3-92
	Kanuin inj	vial			7-3-92
	Norbid 400 mg	10 Tabs			7-3-92
	Omezol Caps	4 Caps			20-5-92
	Roxid 150 Mg	10 Tabs			7-3-92
	Termeg 60 Mg	10 Tabs			7-3-92
	Termeg 120 Mg	10 Tabs			7-3-92
	Termeg ORS	60 ML			
Pefbid Tabs	4 Tabs			7-3-92	
2. Rollers India Ltd.	Digeplex	450 ML	March-92	54.25	
	Digeplex	170 ML	March-92	28.05	
	Digeplex	100 ML	March-92	19.80	
	Digeplex Tabs	10x10's	March-92	90.73	Oct 93
	Fintal NS	20 ML	March-92	70.33	
	Healex spray	90 gms	March-92	66.32	Oct 93
	Fintal ED	10 ML	March-92	51.14	Oct 93
	Julax	10x10's	March-92	65.99	Oct 93
	DeSeptex DS	100 ML	March-92	23.92	
3. Glaxo India Ltd.	Supacef inj	250 Mg			
	Supacef inj	750 Mg			
	Fortun	500 Mg			
	Dilozyn Expect	120 ML			
	Dilozyn Expect	450 ML	Data not furnished		
	Dilozyn Syrup	120 ML			
	Tricloryl Syrup	50 ML			
	Dequadin Ioz	10's			
	Dolisyn	10's			
	Eltroxin Tab	100's			
	Captum Tab				
	250 Mg	4s			
	Normadati Tab				
100 Mg	10's				
Scoline	10 ML				
Fortun	1000 ML				

## COLUMNS

Price	Date	Price	Post-Budget		Remarks
			Date	Price	
7	8	7	10	11	12
45.15	10-3-93	44.50	No revision		
82.80	10-3-93	81.50			
50.95	10-3-93	46.00	Aug 93	28.00	
89.20	10-3-93	78.00			
45.00	10-3-93	44.50			
207.00	10-3-93	204.00	No revision		
13.90	10-3-93	13.70			
23.45	10-3-93	23.00			
62.50	10-3-93	61.50	Aug 93	45.00	
32.00	10-3-93	31.50			
150.00	10-3-93	145.00			
22.15	10-3-93	22.00	No revision		
40.25	10-3-93	40.00			
18.15	10-3-93	18.00			
42.50	10-3-93	42.00	Aug 93	46.00	
54.25	March 93	54.25	July 93	54.88	
28.05	March 93	28.05	July 93	28.60	
19.80	March 93	19.80	July 93	20.29	
100.00	March 93	100.00	July 93	103.52	
70.33	March 93	70.33	July 93	73.85	
70.00	March 93	70.00	July 93	73.52	
60.00	March 93	60.00	July 93	63.52	
86.00	March 93	86.00	July 93	91.63	
23.92	March 93	23.92	July 93	25.19	
63.90		63.01			
147.00		144.94			
182.61		180.25			
14.90		14.69			
33.00		32.54	Data not		
15.90		15.67	furnished		
25.00		24.65			
4.50		4.45			
5.90		5.82			
20.00		19.72			
165.01		162.70			
30.00		29.57			
25.00		24.65			
334.37		329.69			

1	2	3	4	5	6
4. Geoffrey Manner's & Co. Ltd.	Preparation H	30 gms	1-3-92	16.50	1-3-93
	Preparation H	15 gms	1-3-92	11.00	1-3-93
5. Procter & Gamble	Ultra Clearasil	10 gms			
	Ultra Clearasil	20 gms			
	Mediker	10 ml			
	Mediker	50 ml	Data not furnished		
	Medikar	120 ml			
	Action 500	2 s			
6. India Ltd.	Claforam	250 mg	Dec. 92	45.50	No revision
	Claforam 1 gm	250 mg	Dec. 92	164.00	
	Claforam 2 gm		May 92	275.00	
7. Khart Ltd.	Pelox Tablet	4's	Data not furnished		16-3-92
	Surquin Tab	6 Tablets			16-3-92
	Surquin 500 Tab	6 Tablets			16-3-92
	Fudone PM 20 Tablets	10 Tablets			16-3-92
	Fudone PM	10 Tablets			16-3-92
8. Hoechst India Ltd.	Bengocaine IP	1 Kg	15-05-92	505.00	
	Batrafen Cream Dermal	15 gm	15-10-92	18.70	
	Festal Dragees	10's	15-10-92	25.00	data not furnished
	Haemaccl/Inf	500 ml	15-10-92	130.00	
	Homanatex Inj	1 gm	15-10-92	164.00	
	Trantel 400 ml	Ft 5 x 10	15-10-92	299.20	
9. Parke Davis	Benadryl Caps 25 mg	10's			—
	Benadryl Syp	114 ml			—
	Ponstan Kaps 250 mg	10's	Data not furnished		—
	Ponstan Kaps 500 mg	10's			—
	Ponstan Susp	60 ml			—
10. Roche Products	Valium 2 mg	10 Tab			June 92
	Valium 5 mg Tab	10 Tab	Data not furnished		June 92
	Valium 10 mg Tab	10 Tab			June 92
	Saridon Tab	10 Tab	Feb. 92	4.64	June 92
CELL BATTERIES					
11. Union Carbide India Ltd.	1R20 Paper	Per Unit	1-7-92	5.75	15-9-92

7	8	9	10	11	12
16.25	April-Aug.	16.25			
10.60	April-Aug.	10.80			
15.00		14.95			
25.00		24.90			
3.00		3.00			
20.00		19.65			
40.00		39.75			
1.24		1.22			
45.50	1-5-93	34.00			
164.00	1-5-93	126.00			
	1-5-93	230.00			
42.50			18-5-93	28.00	No further
68.36			22-4-93	43.50	revision
124.66	Data not		22-4-93	76.80	
20.50	furnished		Apr to June	16.70	
39.00			Apr to June	31.20	
	15-3-93	505.00			
	01-3-93	18.70			
	01-3-93	25.00			No further
	01-3-93	137.00			revision
	01-3-73	164.00			
	01-3-93	299.20			
4.36	—	4.30			No further
12.15	—	12.00			revision
12.40	—	12.20			
18.75	—	18.50			
13.60	—	13.40			
4.05	—	4.01			No further
6.55	—	6.80			revision
9.75	—	9.68			
4.56	Feb. 93	4.84			
6.00	11-3-93	5.70			No Revision thereafter

1	2	3	4	5	6
12. Lakhanpal National Ltd. BISCUIT	Dry Cell Batteries	1P 3O	Data not available		Jan 93 Jan 93
13. Britannia Industries	Milk Bikis (EWP) (Madras)	Per 100 gms	Apr 92	4.25	Jan 93
	TA-Root (MBT) (Calcutta)	Per Kg	Mar 92	35.00	Dec 92
	Marie Loose (Bombay)	Per Kg	Nov 92	37.00	Feb 93
	Glucose D (Delhi)	Pkt 75 gm	—	—	Apr 92
14. Parle Biscuits Products	Parle-G	100 g 150 g	Data not Furnished		26-2-93 26-2-93
	Krackjack	75 g			26-2-93
	Monaco	75 g			26-2-93
15. Kwality Biscuits Ltd.	Glucose OWP		25-5-92	159.00	16-11-92
	Golden 5 kg		25-5-92	110.00	16-11-92
	Zoological 4.5 kg		25-5-92	117.75	16-11-92
	Kwalivin 6 kg		25-5-92	140.25	16-11-92
	Marie 45 OWP		25-5-92	115.50	29-1-93
TEA					
16. Brooke Bond India Ltd.	Taj Mahal (500 gms)	Per Kg	7-2-93	92.00	28-2-93
	Red lable (250 gms)	Per kg	7-2-93	76.00	28-2-93
	3 Roses (100 gms)	-do-	7-2-93	96.00	28-2-92
	Super Dust (250 gms)	-do-	7-2-93	81.00	28-2-93
17. Duncan Agro Industries Ltd.	Double Diamond (500 gms)	Per Kg	1-2-93	86.00	19-2-93
	Double Diamond (100 gms)		1-2-93	89.00	19-2-93
	Sargam (250 gms)		1-2-93	84.00	19-2-93
	Sargam (500 gms)		1-2-93	83.50	19-2-93
	Pickup (250 gms)		1-2-93	76.00	19-2-93
18. Lipton India Ltd.	Green Label (500 gms)	Per Kg.	5-2-93	138.00	22-2-93
	Ruby Leaf (250 gms)	Per Kg.	5-2-93	76.00	22-2-93
	Ruby Dust (100 gms)	Per Kg.	5-2-93	82.00	22-2-93
	Taaja Ni-Leaf (250 gms)	Per Kg.	5-2-93	85.00	22-2-93
	Taaja grip Dust (500 gms)	Per Kg.	5-2-93	89.00	22-2-93

7	8	9	10	11	12
6.00	Mar 93	5.70	No Revision thereafter		
6.00	Mar 93	5.70			
4.50	Mar 93	4.35	No revision thereafter till August.		
36.00	Mar 93	35.00	-do-		
35.00	Mar 93	37.00	-do-		
2.50	Mar 93	2.30	-do-		
3.50	31-3-93	3.25	Data not available		
5.50	30-4-93	5.25			
4.95	31-3-93	4.75			
5.20	31-3-93	5.00			
172.00	1-3-92	167.10			
116.00	1-3-93	113.60			
122.00	1-3-93	119.65			
144.00	1-3-93	141.20			
131.75	1-3-93	128.25	1-7-83	128.25	
99.50	7-3-93	98.40	9-5-93	97.00	
87.00	7-3-93	85.80	-do-	63.00	
107.50	7-3-93	106.50	—	—	
93.00	7-3-93	91.80	18-4-93	86.00	
96.00	10-3-93	94.90	5-5-93	90.50	
99.00	10-3-93	98.00	5-5-93	94.00	
97.00	10-3-93	95.80	5-5-93	89.00	
96.00	10-3-93	95.20	5-4-93	88.50	
87.00	10-3-93	85.80	5-4-93	83.00	
138.00	4-3-93	136.90	7-5-93	136.90	
86.00	4-3-93	84.80	7-5-93	82.00	
94.00	4-3-93	93.00	7-5-93	87.50	
97.00	4-3-93	95.80	7-5-93	92.00	
96.00	4-3-93	94.90	7-5-93	93.00	

1	2	3	4	5	6	
<b>MAN MADE FIBRES</b>						
19. LML Fibres Ltd.	204/DP-24	per kg	Nov 92	233.53	Feb 93	
	102/P/LM2	per kg	Nov 92	238.43	Feb 93	
	40/1P/grey	per kg	Sept. 92	219.67	Jan 93	
	20/1/MONO	per kg	Sept 92	201.79	Jan 93	
20. Indian Poly	Fibres Ltd	per kg	Jan 93	82.44	Feb 93	
21. Nirlon Ltd.	PFY	kg	Jan 93	184.11	Feb 93	
	NFY	kg	Jan 93	196.75	Feb 93	
22. Reliance Industries	Poy-126 D	kg	Sept 92	163.75	Feb 93	
	POY-245 D	kg	Jan 93	153.75	Feb 93	
23. Orkay Industries Ltd.	Polyster Yarn (poy) 115 D	Kgs	June 92	173.00	July 92	
24. Petrofills Coop. Ltd.	Polyster Filament Yarn (PFY)	Kgs				
	30/12 flat SD				2-3-93	
	50/30 flat PR			Data not furnished		2-3-93
	71/36 flat SD					2-3-93
	76/24 flat SD					2-3-93
25. Ahmedabad Mfg & Calico Printing Co. Ltd.	Polyster Staple Fibre				23-2-93	
26. Alembic Chemical Work Co. Ltd.	Staple Fibre (Natural)		Data not furnished		92-93	
	Staple Fibre (Coloured)				92-93	
	Multifilament Yarn (Flat)				92-93	
	Multifilament Yarn (Crimped)				92-93	
<b>COSMETICS</b>						
27. Ponds India Ltd.	BS <sup>2</sup> 25g	pkt			Feb 93	
	CO 25 g	pkt	Data not furnished		Feb 93	
	VC 25 g	pkt			Feb 93	
	PMLS 80	pkt			Feb 93	
	VICL 50	pkt			Feb 93	
	VICHN 250	pkt			Feb 93	
28. Lakme Ltd.	Face Powder (50 gms)	pkt	-10-92	24.00	3-2-93	
	Face powder	pkt	2-1 - 2	16.00	293	



7	8	9	10	11	12
234.24	Apr 93	237.12	May 93	228.56	
233.10	Apr 93	238.01	May 93	240.28	
207.60	Apr 93	206.15	May 93	210.59	
188.82	Apr 93	194.71	July 93	188.63	
78.65	Mar 93	69.87	July 93	73.77	
183.43	Mar 93	185.17	May 93	204.02	
198.14	Mar 93	195.89	May 93	207.81	
156.75	Mar 93	145.15	May-Jul 93	157.50	
145.75	Mar 93	134.15	May-Jul 93	141.50	
158.00	March 93	145.15	July 93	157.00	
195.07	15-3-93	201.95	16-8-93	239.00	
170.59	15-3-93	216.59		207.00	
155.93	15-3-93	167.80		171.00	
153.98	15-3-93	165.85		165.00	
79.00	Apr-Sep 93	72.74	7-9-93	85.00	
105.76	Apr 93	98.30	July 93	101.83	
102.52	Apr 93	105.16	July 93	96.75	
113.05	Apr 93	138.26	July 93	139.45	
152.00	Apr 93	146.11	July 93	151.93	
12.00	Mar 93	9.50			
16.50	Mar 93	13.00			
12.75	Mar 93	10.10			
30.00	Mar 93	23.60			
19.00	Mar 93	15.00			
26.25	Mar 93	20.60			
27.00	4-3-93	20.77	1-4-93	21.00	
17.00	4-3-93	12.09	1-4-93	13.50	

1	2	3	4	5	6
28. Lakme Ltd.	Moisturising make up (30 MI)		2-10-92	32.00	3-2-93
	Cream Blusher (6 Gms)	pkt	2-10-92	28.00	3,2-93
	Powder Blusher (50 Gms)	pkt	2-10-92	31.50	3-2-93
	Calamine (120 MI)	pkt	2-10-93	33.00	3-2-93
	Calamine (60 MI)	pkt	2-10-93	22.00	3-2-93
	Calamine (30 MI)	pkt	2-10-93	16.00	3-2-93
	Nail Enamel Remover (35 MI)		2-10-93	19.00	3-2-93
	Lipstick (4.5 Gms)	pkt	2-10-93	36.00	3-2-93
	Eye Liner with Brush (10 MI)	pkt	2-10-93	27.00	3-2-93
	Eye Shadow (4 gms)	pkt	2-10-92	39.50	3-2-93
	Root-on-Mascara (7 ml)	pkt	2-10-92	64.00	3-2-93
	Cleaning Milk (200 ml)	pkt	2-10-92	50.00	3-2-93
	Cleanising Milk (120 ml)	pkt	2-10-92	36.00	3-2-93
	Cleanising Milk (60 ml)	pkt	2-10-92	22.00	3-2-93
	Hand & Body Ltn. (200 ml)	pkt	2-10-92	55.00	3-2-93
	Hand & Body Ltn. (120 ml)	pkt	2-10-93	40.00	3-2-93
	Hand & Body Ltn. (60 ml)	pkt	2-10-92	24.00	3-2-93
	Winter Care Ltn. (120 ml)	pkt	2-10-92	43.00	3-2-93
	Hair Removing Ltn. (45 ml)	pkt	2-10-92	24.00	3-2-93
	Active Cleansor (120 ml)		2-10-92	36.00	3-2-93
29. Tomco	Tata Shampoo	400 mg 200 mg 100 gm		Data not Furnished	

7	8	9	10	11	12
30.00	4-3-93	23.11	1-4-93	23.50	
34.00	4-3-93	26.18	1-4-93	26.50	
30.00	4-3-93	23.12	1-4-93	23.50	
33.50	4-3-93	25.78	1-4-93	26.00	
37.00	4-3-93	28.50	1-4-93	29.00	
25.00	4-3-93	19.27	1-4-93	19.50	
16.00	4-3-93	12.33	1-4-93	12.50	
21.00	4-3-93	16.19	1-4-93	17.00	
39.00	4-3-93	30.05	1-4-93	30.50	
29.00	4-3-93	22.32	1-4-93	22.50	
41.50	4-3-93	31.98	1-4-93	32.50	
64.00	4-3-93	49.27	1-4-93	49.50	
53.00	4-3-93	40.83	1-4-93	41.00	
37.00	4-3-93	28.49	1-4-93	29.00	
23.00	4-3-93	17.72	1-4-93	18.00	
59.00	4-3-93	45.44	1-4-93	46.00	
42.00	4-3-93	32.35	1-4-93	32.50	
26.00	4-3-93	20.01	1-4-93	20.50	
45.00	4-3-93	34.66	1-4-93	35.50	
26.00	4-3-93	20.04	1-4-93	20.50	
36.00	4-3-93	28.50	1-4-93	29.00	
36.00		29.35	No further revision.		
21.00		16.25			
12.50		9.65			

1	2	3	4	5	6
30. Godrej	Soaps Ltd. Hair Dye BL	40 ml 20 ml		Data not Furnished	
	Hair Dye BR	40 ml			
	Power Hair Dye				
	Shaving Cream RF	70 gm 20 gm.			
	Shaving Cream MM	70 gm.			
	Shaving Cream IF	70 gm.			
	C.T. Powder	400 gm. 100 gm.			
31. Wipro	Santur Beauty	400 gm.			4-3-93
	Talcum	100 gm.			
	Talcum	50 gm.			
32. Colgate Pamolive	Tooth Powder	200 ml.			29-12-92
	Tooth Powder	100 ml.			11-11-92
	Tooth Powder	50 ml.			30-11-93
	PO Lemon Sh Cream	70 gm			15-1-93
	PO Lemon Sh Cream	30 gm.			15-1-93
	Charmis AP Cream	160 gm.			15-1-93
	Charmis AP Cream	100 gm.			15-1-93
	Charmis AP Cream	50 gm.			11-2-93
	Charmis AP Cream	35 gm.			1-2-93
	POEC	150 gm.			10-2-93
	POEC	75 gm.			1-12-92
33. Hindustan Lever	Clinic Special	60 ml.	Nov. 92	27.00	
	Fair & Lovely Crm	50 gms.	Aug. 92	35.00	
	Fair & Lovely Ltn	50 ml.	Aug. 92	29.00	
	Fair & Lovely Ltn	100 ml.	Aug. 92	51.00	
34. TVS Suzuki Ltd.	Mopeds	KL	3-11-92	8658.74	18-1-93
		Champ	3-11-92	9677.51	18-1-93
35. NOCIL	PVC Resin	Per mt	Nov 92	22550.00	Feb 93
<b>MOULDED LUGGAGE</b>					
36. H.E.B. Luggage Industries Ltd	SR--2000	Per piece	—	—	04-03-92
	M-2100	—	—	—	—
	M-2200	—	—	—	—
	M-2500	—	—	—	—
	M-2800	—	—	—	—

7	8	9	10	11	12
49.00		42.00	No further revision.		
32.00		28.00			
49.00		42.00			
32.00		29.00			
21.45		18.85			
10.50		45.00			
21.45		18.85			
21.45		18.85			
51.50		45.00			
20.45		17.75			
51.50	5-5-93	45.25			
20.75		18.25	No further revision		
13.00		11.25			
23.50			11-3-93	22.15	
13.50			11-3-93	12.70	
7.40			11-3-93	7.00	
24.50			11-3-93	18.85	
14.00			11-3-93	10.75	
71.00			11-3-93	58.00	
49.50			11-3-93	40.50	
29.25			11-3-93	22.75	
21.75			11-3-93	17.00	
16.00			11-3-93	15.00	
8.25			11-3-93	7.75	
	09-3-93	21.00	No revision there after.		
	09-3-93	27.00			
	09-3-93	22.50			
	09-3-93	39.50			
8901.19	Mar. 93	8940.03			
	No Revision thereafter.				
9919.96	Mar. 93	9963.11			
23250.00	Mar. 93	25500.00	Aug 93		
				30500.00	
342.06	15-03-93	342.06	No further		
415.54	---	366.54	revision		
417.25	---	388.14			
515.79	---	479.20			
596.00	---	554.26			

1	2	3	4	5	6
37. Universal luggage Mfg. Co. Ltd.	Space case XVL Legend 24 Disk Bonus Trav 21 Black Belt 11 21 Load Star Black Belt 2 Bonus—ss 20 TL Bonus—ss 22 TL Bonus Eco 20 Bonus Exe T.1				01-09-92
38. VIP Industries Ltd.	Avlon 700 AX 550 Tr 600 Trvlon 29 E OD 9 Venus E				09-09-92
39. Safari Indus- tries Ltd.	Galaxy FL Galaxy Arrow S2 Omega SX EI Omega SX EL Tourist				01-02-92

7	8	9	10	11	12
857.00	1-3-93	797.00	1-7-93	861.00	
667.00		620.00		651.00	
341.00		317.00		333.00	
469.00		436.00		458.00	
398.00		370.00		350.00	
286.00		266.00		279.00	
258.00		240.00		227.00	
304.00		283.00		267.00	
236.00		220.00		208.00	
208.00		194.00		184.00	
1140.00	15-3-93	1060.00	No further revision		
290.00		270.00			
595.00		553.00			
1556.00		1447.00			
570.00		530.00			
333.00		310.00			
490.58	02-04-93	456.18	No further revision		
		883.14			
949.74		411.71			
421.84		526.22			
555.65		905.22			
926.11		682.87			
734.79					

items, namely, the biscuits, mopeds, dry-cell batteries, and plastic moulded luggage, the BICP study team felt that more or less concessions have been passed on to the consumers. In respect of tea the position was not very clear as price of packed tea is linked to the auction price which keeps on fluctuating. As the industries referred to in the report come under the administrative control of various Ministries, copies of the Bureau of Indian Costs and Prices (BICP) report have been passed on to them with the request to analyse the report and take suitable action. A copy of the report has also been forwarded to the Ministry of Finance for their investigation and necessary action. They have also been requested to take suitable action against the firms which have not co-operated with the Bureau of Indian Costs and Prices (BICP) study. A statement indicating the details of maximum price on various dates of price revision as given in the Bureau of Indian Costs and Prices (BICP) report is enclosed for information.

**DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI :** Sir, during the budgetary provision of 1992-93, there was an excise concession to the tune of Rs. 2249 crore and this was intended to give relief to the ultimate consumers and to generate demands in the market so that the industries may be pulled out of the morass of recession.

But it is a matter of great regret and consternation that the excise

concession benefits have not been passed on to the ultimate consumer, even marginally. In certain cases of commodities if some reliefs are passed on to the consumers, those were very marginal. These benefits have got diluted over a chain of various distributorships and wholesalers and retailers and finally these benefits are not reaching the ultimate consumers, particularly those who are located in the rural areas.

So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal in the mind of the hon. Minister to simplify, expedite and streamline the administrative set up in order to take action against the reluctant and recalcitrant industries which are not passing on the benefits of excise concessions to the ultimate consumers. I want to know whether such type of a proposal will be put to implementation in the near future or not.

**The Minister of Civil Supplies  
Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution**

(**SHRI A.K. ANTONY**): Government is very serious that the excise concessions announced in the last Budget should be passed on to the consumers. That is why, as I have stated in the main answer, I have convened two meetings of the industrialists and manufacturing organisations and also the consumer organisations in which the industries claimed that they have passed on the benefits to the consumers. The consumer organisations disputed it. Since we have no mecha-



nism with us to verify the truth, we have requested the BICP to go into the details and report to the Ministry. The BICP has taken up ten items of common usage for their sample study and they have completed the study and given the report. Since the administrative Ministries are different, we have given copies of the report to various Ministries and requested them to take action on the basis of the report of the BICP. We have also sent a copy of the BICP report to the Finance Ministry and requested them to take suitable action on the basis of the BICP report. As there are some manufacturers who did not reply to the BICP, we have also requested the Finance Ministry to take suitable action against those industries and manufacturing units which do not cooperate with the BICP. The Government is following up these things.

Dr. MUMTAZ ANSARI: Mr. Speaker Sir, the hon. Minister has pointed out just now that there is helplessness on the part of the Ministry because of paucity of certain Machinery and absence of certain mechanism. That is why, they are not in a position to pass on the excise concession benefits to the ultimate consumer. At the same time, they say that the Government is very serious about passing on the benefits to the ultimate consumers. This is just a mockery....

MR. SPEAKER: Please come to the question.

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Dr. MUMTAZ ANSARI: I am coming to the point. The hon. Minister has pointed out that ten items commonly used by people have been referred to the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices and that their report has also been submitted. But now, there is complete helplessness on the part of the Government because even in the ten items selected, in the case of three items, the benefits have not been passed on to the consumers. Even in the case of drugs which are a very important commodity, the benefits have not been passed on to the ultimate consumer. In the case of four commodities including biscuits, the benefits have not been passed on.

MR. SPEAKER: You are not expected to make a speech. You are expected to put a question.

Dr. MUMTAZ ANSARI: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal on the part of the Government to amend suitably the Consumers Protection Act and to amend the Standards of Weights and Measures (Package Commodity) Rules 1977 so that the benefits may be passed on to the consumers.

MR. SPEAKER: Leave it there. It is a good question. Don't confuse yourself with other aspects.

SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI: I would like to know whether there is any proposal to amend the relevant Acts in order to protect the interests of the ultimate consumers.

**SHRI A.K. ANTONY:** In my answer I have not shown any helplessness in this matter. Our Ministry has taken the initiative and requested the BICP to go into the details. It has studied the matter and given a report. Now, it is for the various administrative ministries to take action. Immediately after we received the Report, we sent it to various administrative ministries to take follow up action. These administrative ministries are now considering the report. That is the latest stage.

Regarding other points, at the moment I can only say that we will consider them also.  
(Translation)

**SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:** I would like to know whether the Government has instructed the industries as well as trade organisations to provide proof that the benefits of Rs. 12 crore excise duty concessions being given by the Government have been passed on to the consumers and also whether a time limit has been set in this regard? I would like to know the number of industries which have not passed on the benefits to the consumers and have also not furnished any information to Government in this regard alongwith the details of the action taken by the Government against these industries?  
(English)

**SHRI A.K. ANTONY:** After the announcement was made in the Budget, the Government convened a meeting of the traders and manufacturers. Now, it is their duty to

respond. They have to pass on the benefits to the Consumers. When we received complaints from the consumers and consumer organisations that manufacturers are not repoding postively, we sought the help of BICP. I am sure various administrative ministries will take strong action against those manufacturers who have not passed on the benefits to the consumers. Regarding those industries which have not cooperated with the BICP, we have brought it to the notice of the administrative ministries for taking necessary action.

**SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the reply it is clear that the Ministry has no facility to ascertain the exact impact of the excise concession and other components on the price fixation. After the consumer organisation pursued this matter, the Government referred it to BICP. There also the tragic situation that some of the them did not cooperate and in some cases it is clear that they have not at all passed on these concessions to the consumers.

My first question is, if this was the position why did the Government hastily give these concessions without making any preparation to see that it will be passed on to the consumers? And, secondly, time and again these statements have been made. For example a Statement was made on the 7th June by the Minister of Civil Supplies warning the traders that if they fail to pass on the benefit of excise duty, stern

action will be taken. The Finance Minister also made a statement that Government will withdraw the relief if the benefits are not passed on to the consumers.

In this situation, instead of passing on these reports to various departments for further action, will the Government consider to withdraw these concessions and take some such stern action by which it will be effectively passed on to the consumers?

**SHRI A.K. ANTONY:** Regarding the last part of his question, only the Finance Minister can answer. The only thing that I can say is, Government is serious about passing on these concessions to the consumers. For the first time the Government took serious steps to follow it up and that is why we took the help of BICP. We got the report and that report is under consideration of various administrative Ministries. They will take action against those manufacturers who are not passing on the benefits to the consumers. I am sure the administrative Ministries will also take action against those companies which are not cooperating with BICP in this regard.

**SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:** Sir, the whole thing is very contradictory. As Mr. Dighe has correctly referred to it, the Finance Ministry threatens that the concessions on excise duty would be withdrawn. Is there any case, when it had been withdrawn?

Secondly, supposing within an industry, one or two units comply with it and the rest of them do not, how do you punish them? Will you withdraw the concessions wholesale?

And thirdly, is it not a contradiction of your own Economic Policy that you let the market decide and not impose any restrictions?

So, how will you get out of this contradiction of saying that you will punish, if the concession on excise duty is not passed on to the consumers and as far as this case is concerned let the market decide?

**SHRI A.K. ANTONY:** I have already stated that as far as withdrawal of concessions is concerned, I am not in a position to say anything.

As far as other aspects are concerned, the Government is very serious. That is why the Government is studying these things.

Regarding market forces, I would request the hon. Members that let us work together to discipline market forces. The Government had studied this aspect for the first time. Now, the consumer organisations and the consumer movements, have got some rapport and unless the consumers themselves organise, we will not be able to control this. From our side, whatever is legally possible, we will do it.

— As per the advice given by the Finance Ministry, our Ministry had sent the Report to the BICP for

their study. So, we are working in coordination. Now, the Report is with us. We had sent that Report to various Ministries, including the Finance Ministry. I am sure that they will take proper action on the basis of this Report.

**SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:** Sir, they are coordinating in order not to act!

**SHRI P.C. CHACKO:** Sir, concerns had been expressed in the House at the very introduction of this concession that this would not be implemented. We are very happy and thankful to the Minister for promptly convening a Conference. We feel that the Minister had done his part, but, Sir, the industries had not responded to the Civil Supplies Ministry. They had also not responded to the BICP.

According to the existing laws, the BICP or the Civil Supplies Ministry do not have any power to take action. We want a specific assurance from the hon. Minister whether the Civil Supplies Ministry will make a recommendation to the Finance Ministry that those industries which had not extended this concession to the consumers, from them, this concession should be withdrawn. This is a simple thing, there is no other remedy available.

**SHRI A.K. ANTONY:** Our Ministry had already recommended to the Finance Ministry and the administrative Ministry that action should be taken against those manufacturers who had not passed on the

concessions to the consumers. We had also recommended that action should be taken against those manufacturers who did not cooperate with BICP.

**SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:** Excise Duty is not charged manufacturer-wise. It is charged product-wise. How will you punish them?

**SHRI RAM NAIK:** I am very happy that the Minister is very serious! I only hope that the Government is very very serious! I want to know, after the Minister submitted his Report to the Finance Ministry, is there any feedback of the action taken by the Finance Ministry and if there is no feedback from the Finance Ministry, what the Minister proposes to do about it?

**SHRI A.K. ANTONY:** Had received a reply from the Finance Ministry that they will seriously scrutinise this Report and take action against them as per the Report.

**SHRI RAM NAIK:** The Minister must know whether he has received any feedback from the Finance Ministry. He must say whether there was any feedback or not.

**SHRI A.K. ANTONY:** I got a reply from the Finance Ministry that they will immediately scrutinise the BICP report; and on the basis of this report, they will take action.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I think the House has expressed its view very clearly and not only the Government

but the Ministry also should take note of it. They are very clear on this point.

**SHRI RAM NAIK:** We want an assurance from the Minister

**MR. SPEAKER:** He has noted it down.

### RASHTRIYA SAKSHARTA MISSION

\*63. **SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the annual budget allocated to the Rashtriya Saksharta Mission during 1993-94;
- (b) the amount released so far by the Government till date to this Mission; and
- (c) the details of new proposals if any, with the Government for furthering this cause?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA)

(a) to (c) : A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### STATEMENT

- (a) The provision for all programmes of Adult Literacy under the National Literacy Mission during 1993-94 is Rs. 177.97 crores.
- (b) The expenditure incurred since 1988 on all the schemes of the Mission amounts to Rs. 543.00 crores.

(c) The dominant strategy under the Mission is the Total Literacy Campaigns. At present 240 districts have been covered either partially or fully by these campaigns. It is proposed to cover 345 districts fully by the end of the Eighth Plan.

(Translation)

**SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, when I visit Gujarat, I find large hoardings with captions "Totally Literate District". I visited ten villages and asked the people if their village had achieved total literacy. They said it was a big fraud. Who are the people who benefit from these campaigns no one knows. Literacy campaigning is confined to papers and not run in villages. Is the expenditure on publicity through press and T.V. also included in the total expenditure incurred on the campaigns? Is there any monitoring machinery to keep a watch over the total expenditure and the outdated loan of Rs. 177 crore? Which are the institutes in different states that work in villages? Do they keep any record? Is there any machinery to check whether the expenditure was proper?

[English]

**KUMARI SELJA:** I would like to inform the House that it was Dave Committee which was to tell us the modality of total literacy declaration. According to that, only 80 per cent of the learned and in the identified target group at least 70 per cent marks on the aggregate and at least 50 per cent marks in each of the three competencies—reading