

### Child Labour

506. KUMARI UMA BHARTI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are contemplating to take any step for the welfare of the child labourers working in cracker industry with a view to save them from working in this hazardous industry;

(b) the number of the cracker factories in which blasts took place in the country during the last year and the number of persons specifically the child labourers died in these blasts; and

(c) the efforts being made by the Government to check such serious accidents ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) As per the provisions of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) act, 1986, employment of children is prohibited in the manufacture of matches, explosives and fireworks and work relating to selling of crackers and fireworks in shops with temporary licences. Employers found violating the provisions of the Act are liable for prosecution.

National Child Labour Projects for rehabilitating child labour working in hazardous occupations also cover fireworks industry. One such project for child labour working in the match and fireworks industry has been running at Sivakasi covering a total of 5,000 children through 89 special schools. Under this project, children working in the match and fireworks industry are taken out of work and diverted to special schools where they are provided with non-formal primary level education, vocational training, nutrition, stipends etc.

(b) and (c) information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Raids Conducted by Income Tax Department, Pune

507. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the basis on which Income Tax Department conducts searches;

(b) whether probable correctness of informant's information is verified before conducting searches;

(c) the details of searches conducted by Income Tax Department in Pune during the last two years; and

(d) the total cash, jewellery and assets seized during these raids ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) The search operation is carried out when the Department has reason to believe that any person who is in possession of any money, bullion, jewellery or other valuable article or thing which represent either wholly or partly income or property which has not been or would

not be disclosed or to whom a summon or notice has been or might be issued and will not produce any books of account or documents relevant for proceedings under the Income Tax Act.

(b) Whenever any information is received by the Income Tax Department indicating evasion of tax in any case, an independent inquiry is carried out to verify the correctness of the information.

(c) and (d) The details of searches conducted by the Income Tax Department in Pune during the last two years is as under :

Financial Year	No. of warrants executed	Seizure (Rs. in lakhs)
1993-94	64	455.49
1994-95	79	530.08

### Release of Funds under P.M.R.Y.

508. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the total funds allocated for loans under P.M.R.Y. has since been released by Banking sector for the year 1995-96;

(b) the loan target fixed for 1995-96 under the scheme;

(c) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding indifferent attitude of Banking Authorities towards P.M.R.Y. loan; and

(d) if so, action taken thereon and the details of latest directions issued to Banking institutions in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) and (b) There is no specific allocation of funds by the banking sector under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY). The physical target in terms of the number of beneficiaries for the year 1995-96 is 319360.

(c) and (d) There have been some complaints regarding the indifferent attitude of Bank Managers. Some complaints have been received regarding the non-sanctioning of viable proposals, the insistence on collateral security and delayed disbursements of sanctioned cases. Having regard to the importance of this scheme in the context of increasing self-employment opportunities, the progress of implementation of the scheme is being monitored regularly. The Chief Executives of banks implementing the PMRY have been advised that the implementation of the scheme should be promptly attended to. They have also been advised that an Officer of the level of General Manager should be given the responsibility of overseeing the implementation of the scheme. This has been done to ensure that complaints that are received are attended to properly at a sufficiently senior level in the banks.