

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**Evasion of Excise Duty by companies**

\*170. SHRI KARIA MUNDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the companies against whom show cause notices for Excise duty evasion of more than Rs. 50 crores each have been issued during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to take over the shares of the foreign companies against whom excise duty of more than Rs. 50 crores is pending realisation; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Show-Cause-Notices for Excise duty evasion of more than Rs. 50 crores each have been issued to the following companies during the last three years:—

1. M/s. Hindustan News Print Limited, News Print Nagar, Kottayam.
2. M/s. Mysore Paper Mills, Bhadravati.
3. M/s. G.I.C., Bombay.
4. M/s. Godfrey Phillips India Limited, Bombay.

(b) and (c) After the issue of Show-Cause-Notice, the case has to be adjudicated. Question of initiating recovery proceedings arises only after confirmation of the duty demands in adjudication & not just after issue of the Show-Cause-Notice. After the demands are confirmed, there are several other more direct and quicker methods of enforcing recovery than taking over the shares of a company.

[*Transkation*]

**Alleged irregularities in DGS & D**

\*173. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-items appearing in "Jansatta" dated 9 and 10 January, 1991 regarding the irregularities committed in the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals (DGS&D);

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes Sir, in so far as publication of the news item is concerned.

(b) The allegations were examined in January, 91 and found to be unsubstantiated.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

**Implementation of Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief scheme in Gujarat**

\*174. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers benefited under the 'Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief Scheme, 1990' till date, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(b) the amount sanctioned and released under the scheme to the State of Gujarat till date; and

(c) when the remaining amount is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The Scheme provides debt relief to eligible borrowers who are farmers, artisans and weavers. As on 1st July, 1991