

return of income every year if his income inclusive of income from house property exceeds the maximum amount not chargeable to income tax. There is no proposal to make it compulsory for the house-owners to file return of income irrespective of the total income of such persons.

(b) Does not arise:

(c) The Central Information Branches in the Investigation wing of the Income-tax Department collect information relating to house properties from various sources such as municipal corporations, construction companies and housing co-operative societies. The information is then verified and forwarded to Assessing Officers for taking appropriate action in the cases where tax evasion is suspected.

[English]

#### **Evasion of Excise Duty by Cigarette Manufacturers**

4135. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cigarette manufacturers have resorted to excise duty evasion;

(b) if so, the estimated amount of excise duty due from each cigarette manufacturer as on June 30, 1991;

(c) the steps taken to recover the excise duty due from each such defaulter; and

(d) the amount of excise duty collected from the above cigarette manufacturers during 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR):

(a) Yes Sir, during the last three financial years, cases of evasion of Central Excise duty involving an amount estimated at Rs. 248.67 crores against 14 cigarette manufacturing units were made.

(b) Confirmed Central Excise demands amounting to Rs. 126.98 crores were pending realisation against 15 cigarette manufacturing units as on June 30, 1991.

(c) Most of the outstanding dues are linked with cases pending in Customs Excise & Gold (Control) appellate Tribunal and various Courts. In many cases, the Tribunal and the Courts have been moved for early disposal of the cases. For defending the cases involving high revenue stakes, competent special counsels have been engaged.

(d) A sum of Rs. 636.51 crores was collected as Central Excise Revenue during 1990-91 from the 15 cigarette manufacturing units referred to in part (b) above.

#### **Loans sanctioned by Nationalised Banks to Industrial Houses in Tamil Nadu**

4136. SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loans sanctioned to big industrial houses in Tamil Nadu by the nationalised banks during the last three years;

(b) whether the sanctioned amount has been released to all the industrial houses; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH):** (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India has reported that information regarding amount of loan sanctioned by banks to big industrial houses in Tamil Nadu is not generated through their Reporting System as no statistics is compiled on

state level basis.

However, the amount of credit limit and the outstanding credit of Sheded Commercial Banks for industries in the state of Tamil Nadu as at the end of June, 1987, June 1988 and June 1989 (latest available) was as under :—

(Rs. crores)

Year	Credit Limits	Amount outstanding
June 1987	3094.65	2520.81
June 1988	4463.52	3485.90
June 1989	5503.08	4439.32

**Trade Potential in Gulf**

4137. **SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to exploit the vast trade potential in the Gulf region;

(b) whether any high level delegations have been or are being sent to Gulf region to explore and exploit the potential; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED):**

(a) to (c) Government have taken a number of steps to exploit the available opportunities in the post-war Gulf reconstruction. These steps include :—

- (i) A Special Group has been set up to evolve a strategy for promoting project exports in the Gulf in the post-war situation.

- (ii) A High Powered Committee with Inter-Ministerial representation has been set up to expedite Government clearance for project exports through high level Inter-Ministerial discussions.

- (iii) Former Commerce Minister visited Kuwait to get first hand knowledge of the war damage in Kuwait and for talks with the concerned Kuwaiti authorities.

- (iv) Overseas Construction Council of India delegation visited U. K. and U. S. A. to explore the possibilities of securing sub-contracts on the contracts awarded to parties in these countries.

- (v) A Composite delegation of project exporters visited Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

- (vi) A delegation led by Chairman, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development authority visited Gulf region recently.