

level of utilisation of the installed capacity and reasons thereof. Preference is given to fuller utilisation of capacity already installed rather than to creation of new capacity.

Increase in Foreign Exchange Reserves

258. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a record leap in India's foreign exchange reserves in May and June, 1976;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) whether this increase in foreign exchange reserves will be maintained in the coming months?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) and (b). The foreign exchange reserves increased by Rs. 287.51 crores in May and by Rs. 139.10 crores in June, 1976 respectively but these were not record increases.

(c) It is difficult to say whether there will be successive increases of this order in the foreign exchange reserves since that would depend mainly on continued buoyancy of export earnings and inward remittances as compared to the size of payments for essential imports, debt servicing, etc.

अफीम का डोडा चूरा

1740. श्री भागीरथ भंडार : क्या राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) इस समय अफीम के डोडा चूरा का उपयोग किस प्रकार किया जाता है; और

(ख) क्या मध्य प्रदेश क अफीम के डोडा चूरा के कोई उद्योग चल रहे हैं ?

राजस्व और बैंकिंग विभाग के प्रभारी राज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रणव कुमार मुत्तर्म) :

(क) अफीम के डोडा का चूरा अर्थात् पीसे हुए अथवा चूर्ण बनाए गए पीसे के चोरा लगे डोडों को वर्तमान में निम्न-लिखित प्रयोजनार्थ इस्तेमाल किया जा रहा है :—

(i) अंधाधुंध की देशी प्रणाली में, खाने और बाहर लगाने दोनों प्रकार के उपयोगों के लिए ;

(ii) खाद मंबन्धी प्रयोजनों के लिए ; और

(iii) चिकित्सा और वैज्ञानिक प्रयोजनों के लिए एल्कालायड निकालने के निमित्त विदेशों को निर्यात के लिए ;

(ख) मध्य प्रदेश में इस प्रकार चलाए जा रहे अफीम डोडा चूरा उद्योगों के बारे में सरकार के पास कोई सूचना नहीं है ।

मध्य प्रदेश में आयकर अधिकारियों द्वारा बरामद किए गए आभूषण

1741. श्री गंगा चरण दीक्षित : क्या राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या जनवरी, 1976 से 30 जून, 1976 तक की अवधि के दौरान मध्य प्रदेश में मारे गए छापों के दौरान आयकर अधिकारियों ने आभूषण बरामद किए थे ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनका कुल मूल्य कितना है ?

राजस्व और बैंकिंग विभाग के प्रभारी
राज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रणब कुमार मुखर्जी) :

(क) और (ख) . मध्य प्रदेश के आयकर आयुक्तों के अधिकार क्षेत्रों में 1 जनवरी से 30 जून, 1976 तक की अवधि में आयकर अधिकारियों द्वारा की गई तलाशी तथा अभिग्रहण की कार्यवाहियों के कारण 20.3 लाख रु० से अधिक मूल्य क आयुषण पकड़े गए हैं ।

Political Parties Assessed for Income Tax

1742. SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether political parties represented in the Parliament have been assessed for income-tax;

(b) if so, the tax assessed and paid by each of them during the past two years;

(c) whether election funds collected by them are also subjected to income tax; and

(d) if so, the tax assessed and paid by each of the parties during the past two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

Investment of Part of Impounded D.A. in Small Savings Schemes

1743. SHRI RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a conference of Finance Ministers of Northern States, workers in the organised sector have been asked to invest in small savings schemes at least 25 per cent of the first instalment of the impounded wages and D.A. which was due to be paid in July;

(b) whether farmers have also been urged to invest in small savings; and

(c) if so, the salient features of this scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI-MATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) In the Conference of Finance Ministers of Northern States held for discussing generally the measures for strengthening the Small Savings Movement, it was decided to appeal to employees and workers all over the country to invest in small savings at least 25 per cent of the first instalment of impounded D.A. which will be repaid to them in the current year.

(b) and (c). It was also decided in the meeting to approach the farmers systematically through co-operative marketing committees/societies or co-operative banks connected with the farmers and persuade them to invest in small savings. The co-operative societies/banks are also being requested to become agents and canvass among farmers for investment in small savings.

Fall in the Production of Natural Rubber Latex Foam

1744. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the quantum of fall of natural