

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the suggestions made in the Wanchoo Committee Report on black money have been implemented;

(b) if so, the extent of success achieved so far; and

(c) whether there is any need of appointing another Committee to give recommendations in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Most of the main recommendations of the Direct Taxes Enquiry Committee (Wanchoo Committee) relating to black money have been implemented.

(b) The legislative amendments carried out have led to better performance in search and seizure operations and also in generally improving the effectiveness of the implementation of tax laws relating to concealment of income.

(c) It is not considered necessary to appoint another Committee now to give recommendations in the matter.

#### Estimated Cost of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant

1557. SHRI RAM SWARUP RAM : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant originally estimated to cost Rs. 2,500 crores is now estimated to cost Rs. 8,000 crores at 1984 price;

(b) the reasons for delay in the completion of the project; and

(c) the percentage of cost escalation per annum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) The original estimated cost for the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant was Rs. 2256 crores

(first quarter 1979 prices). The cost estimates of the project were revised to Rs. 3897.28 crores (fourth quarter 1981 prices) and this was approved by Government in 1982. The revised estimates of capital cost for the project taking into account the revised schedule as well as the price escalation since the fourth quarter of 1981, has not yet been finalised.

(b) The main reasons for the delay are : slippages in some items such as the erection of structures and equipment leading to mis-matches in implementation and constraint of resources.

(c) Cost escalation has been 21.5% per annum between first quarter 1979 and fourth quarter 1981 due to price escalation, statutory levies increase, changes in scope of work etc.

#### Dhankuni Project of Coal India Ltd.

1558. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided about the fate of the gas from Coal India Limited's Dhankuni project which will be available from 1986 as to whether it should be used as town gas for domestic and industrial consumers or for some other purpose;

(b) whether the Government of West Bengal has been negotiating with the Coal India Limited in this matter; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to sort out the problem over use of Dhankuni gas ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). As per approved feasibility report of the Dhankuni Project Coal India Limited will sell gas to the West Bengal Government through the gas distribution net work of the State Government. The requirement of this gas in the domestic and industrial sectors has been assessed by them. As it