

(f) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) :** (a) to (d) The RBI has reported that the agricultural advances of public sector banks outstanding on the last Friday of December, 1984 in Andhra Pradesh stood at Rs. 992.29 crores. This constituted 13.5% of the total agricultural advances outstanding as on that date in the country and was the highest percentage of agricultural credit outstanding as on that date among the various States and Union Territories. All farmers are entitled to receive agricultural loans for viable productive schemes.

(e) and (f) Banks have been advised to ensure that direct agricultural advances reach a level of 16% of their total credit by March, 1987. Separate State-wise targets have not been fixed for this purpose.

**Raids at premises of businessmen engaged in selling snacks, ice creams and other eatables**

5419. **SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :**  
**DR. G. S. RAJHANS :**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the sellers of snacks, ice-creams and other small eatable items are earning lakhs of rupees every year in the metropolitan cities and have not paid even a single paisa to the Income Tax/Sales Tax Department;

(b) whether the Income Tax authorities at Bombay have recently raided at the premises of a businessmen who is engaged in selling snacks, ice-creams and other eatable items and found several lakhs in cash, gold and diamonds. etc. in his possession, as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' of 13 March, 1986; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to conduct raids at the leading sellers of daily eatable items in the metropolitan cities in the country ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE**

**MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) :** (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is aware of tax evasion by sellers of snacks, ice-creams & other eatable items. Some searches on 20.2.1986 resulted in the seizure of prima-facie, unaccounted assets worth Rs. 7.18 lakhs approximately, apart from large number of incriminating documents and books of accounts in such cases.

(c) On the basis of specific information received or collected otherwise, searches are conducted in the cases of tax evaders including the leading sellers of daily eatable items.

**White paper to streamline price policy**

5420. **SHRI D. N. REDDY :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(b) whether a white paper to streamline price policy is proposed to be released as reported in the 'Times of India' on 8th March, 1986;

(b) if so, whether this will give in black and white how average fixed income employee and his family are to meet these price hikes;

(c) whether the white paper will also indicate the measures to give adequate monetary compensation to all paid employees without recourse to corruption; and

(d) whether Government are aware that nutritional standards of middle level workers are fully safeguarded in the price policies in the news paper ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) :** (a) to (d) The Govt. is working on a policy paper on administered prices which will outline the approach and policy on revision in administered prices. The details regarding content will be available after the paper has been finalised.

**Persons insured under various life insurance schemes**

5421. **SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of population in the country got insured under various insurance policies of Life Insurance Schemes; and

(b) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Approximately 13% of the main working population of 22.25 crores is covered by LIC of India under its various Schemes.

(b) The Corporation has a total number of 2.65 crores of policies in force as on 31.3.1985. Besides 79 lacs members have been extended the benefit of Group Insurance Scheme as on 31.3.1985.

**Decline in consumption of beet and sugarcane in USA, Britain etc.**

5422. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that beet and sugarcane consumption has declined in USA, Britain and other parts of the world in recent years;

(b) if so, the extent of decline country-wise; and

(c) how Government proposes to pro-

tect interest of the cane-growers and sugarcane industry in the country in view of the decline in beet and sugarcane consumption in USA, Britain etc. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) and (b) A statement showing production of sugar from beet and sugarcane and consumption of sugar in various countries from 1980 to 1984 is given below. From this statement, it will be seen that the world consumption of sugar (produced both from beet and sugarcane) has been, by and large, increasing during this period. The world production of sugar has been fluctuating, depending upon the production of beet and sugarcane from year to year, as well as other factors.

(c) The interests of sugarcane growers and sugarcane industry stand protected already. The Central Government fixes the statutory minimum price of sugarcane below which no sugar factory can pay, and in actual practice, the growers are generally receiving prices higher than the statutory minimum. Sugar factories are required to crush the agreed quantities of cane before they close down operations for the season. Practically the whole of sugar producing capacity in the country is sugarcane based and all expansion or establishment of new capacity is also based on sugarcane as raw material.