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10.	Mrs. C.L. Narayan, 30C, Dilsad Garden, Delhi	22-09-86	Claim settled and amount of Rs. 5,949/- paid on 12-6-1987.
11.	Shri G.C. Sharma & Mrs. Avinash Pandit, B-24/B, Maharani Bagh, New Delhi	14-11-86	Claim approved for settlement for Rs. 61,700/-.
12.	Shri S.P. Singh, 575/21, S P. Marg, New Delhi	14-05-87	Claim settled and amount of Rs. 8,190/- paid on 5-10-1987.
13.	Shri R.K. Arora, G-69, Mansarovar Garden, New Delhi	09-06-87	Amount of claim was Rs. 410/-. Claim not admitted as the item stolen was not covered under the policy.
14.	Shri Prem Nath Dhinani, A-188, Defence Colony, New Delhi	16-06-87	Claim settled and amount of Rs. 240/- paid on 7-8-1987.
15.	Shri S K. Joshi, 5/60, W.E.A., Karol Bagh, New Delhi	23-06-87	Claim settled and amount of Rs. 369/- paid on 28-10-1987.
16.	M/s Tulok Saree Kendra, Nai Sarak, Delhi	03-07-87	Amount claimed was Rs. 11,200/-. Claim not admitted as the cause of loss was beyond the scope of the cover.
17.	Shri V.V. Subramanian, C-2/97, Janakpuri, New Delhi	11-08-87	Claim settled and amount of Rs. 27,890/- paid on 14-12-1987.
18.	M/s. Sunit Appliance, C-16, Wazirpur Industrial Area, Delhi	10-09-87	Loss could not be assessed as the documents/information required by the Surveyors are not forthcoming from the insured.
19.	Shri V.R. Sonam, C-2D/33-A, Janakpuri, New Delhi	21-09-87	Claim is under scrutiny.
20.	Shri S.P. Parthy, 1286-18C, Chandigarh.	23-02-88	The information/documents required by the Company from the insured still awaited.

**Investigation into the Affairs of Certain
Industrial Group**

6293. DR. A.K. PATEL :

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :

SHRI DAULATSINHJI JADEJA :

SHRIMATI USHA CHOU-
DHARY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be
pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate of Enforcement and Central Board of Direct Taxes have investigated the affairs of Shri Goenka of Indian Express Group, Shri A.K. Jain of Times of India Group, Shri Ambani of Reliance Group, Bachchag Brothers and Shri L.M. Thapar group of companies ;

(b) if so, the findings of the investigations ; and

(c) how many raids have been conducted and notices have been issued in case and whether prosecutions also have been launched ; if so, in which case and when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c). As a result of investigations under FERA, 31 Show Cause Notices to Thapar Group of Companies and 3 show cause notices to M/s. Indian Express News-Papers (Bombay) Pvt. Ltd. and Shri R.N. Goenka have been issued. Investigations made in the case of Shri A.K. Jain have not revealed any violation of FERA. The other investigations are in progress. The launching of prosecution under FFRA is normally examined after completion of adjudication proceedings.

Investigations under Income-tax against Shri R.N. Coenka have been completed and prosecutions launched. The matter has been stayed by the Bombay High Court. In regard to the other cases mentioned, findings of the investigations under Income-tax will be known, only after the assessments are completed in individual case.

Prices of Soft Drinks

6294. SHRI E AYYAPU REDDY :

SHRI SOMNATH RATH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the All India Soft Drink Manufacturing Association has offered to Government that it could sell soft drinks at 1.50 per bottle, if Government was willing to reduce the excise duty ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to this offer ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) The All India Soft Drink Manufacturers' Association had in a representation dated the 21st December, 1987 stated that it would be possible to sell soft drinks in retail at Rs. 1.50 per bottle, if soft drinks and printed crown corks are fully exempted from excise duty.

(b) The Government have not found it possible to accept the request of the Association in this behalf.

Withdrawal of Excise Concessions to Large Companies

6295. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Electronics has represented against withdrawal of excise concessions to large companies for marketing electronic items manufactured by small scale units as these items do not attract excise duty if marketed by small scale units themselves ;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ; and

(c) the steps being taken to ensure that small scale units produce more and more electronics items of requisite quality to increase their share in exports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) A representation in this regard was received by the Government with particular reference to the difficulties faced by women's cooperatives situated in rural and backward areas.

(b) In this year's Budget, Government have introduced a new scheme providing for full excise duty exemption in respect of specified excisable goods, including some electronic goods, manufactured in the rural areas by registered cooperative societies, including women's societies or by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission or by the State Khadi and Village Industries Boards.

(c) The Government's liberal policy for promotion of electronics industry in the sphere of foreign collaboration is available to the small scale sector. For improving the quality of production, Government have created infrastructural facilities in the form of testing and development centres. The small scale units are expected to take advantage of this infrastructure to improve quality which would help them increase their share in exports.