

been charged with alleged evasion of Excise Duty of Rs. 2,300 crores;

(b) whether some cigarette manufacturing companies sold cigarettes during the last three years in retail at prices much higher than those printed as the maximum retail price on the packs;

(c) whether any enquiry has been made into the matter and with what results;

(d) the estimated amount of excise duty evaded by the various cigarette manufacturing Companies; and

(e) the stage at which the recovery proceedings against each one of these Companies stand at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) As per show cause notices issued since 1983 the cigarette industry has been charged with alleged evasion of Central Excise duties to the tune of Rs. 2220.24 crores.

(b) and (c). This was the ground for show cause notices issued after necessary investigation in 11 cases involving a total amount of Rs. 1,380 crores.

(d) As per show cause notices issued to various cigarette companies the alleged evasion of Central Excise duties as mentioned in reply to Part (a), is as follows:—

<i>Name of Company</i>	<i>No of SGN issued</i>	<i>Amount involved (Rs. in crores)</i>
I.T.C. and Job workers	28	1180.66
N.T.C. and job workers	21	225.28
G.T.C. Industries and job workers	18	268.95
Godfrey Phillips (India) Ltd., and job workers	7	542.93
Masters Tobacco Company and others		2.42
Total:	69	2220.24

(e) Out of the above, two show cause notices have already been adjudicated. In one case recovery has been stayed by the Tribunal on pre-deposit of Rs. 20 lakhs and the other case has been stayed by the Court. All the other show cause notices are pending adjudication. All Question of recovery of any dues will arise only after these show cause notices are adjudicated and the amounts confirmed. However, one cigarette company has made voluntary payment of Rs. 2.41

crores even before the adjudication of its cases.

Customs shops in Hyderabad and Secunderabad

598. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY:
SHRI G. BHOOPATHY:
SHRI MANIK REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number and location of the customs notified shops in Hyderabad and Secunderabad:

(b) whether Government are aware of illegal customs notified shops in Hyderabad and Secunderabad;

(c) if so, the measures taken to curb them; and

(d) the articles generally made available to the public through these customs notified shops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Number of Customs notified shops located in Hyderabad and Secunderabad are 132 and 52 respectively.

(b) and (c). Government is aware that certain shops illegally operating as customs notified shops have sprouted in the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad. Raids have been conducted on such illegal shops from time to time on the basis of specific intelligence and the goods displayed in them have been seized. The number of such premises raided and the value of goods seized from them during the last three years are given in the table below:—

Year	Number of premises raided	Value of goods seized (Rs. in lakhs)
1987	32	9.86
1988	43	10.41
1989 (upto June)	20	4.19

The seizure cases are adjudicated and where appropriate the confiscation of the seized goods is detected and the persons concerned penalized.

(d) The articles made available to the public through Customs notified shops are: Electronic items, calculators, wrist watches, cosmetics, textiles and other miscellaneous consumer goods.

Fast Passenger Train between Trivandrum Kottayam

599. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any request from Kerala Government to in-

roduce a new computer fast passenger train between Trivandrum and Kottayam; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

Development of Irinjalakkuda Railway Station (Kerala)

600. SHRI K. MOHANDAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to