

(c) if so, the findings of this committee, and

(d) the details of the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to improve mine safety measures and to check mine accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A.SANGMA):

(a) 259 and 310 respectively.

(b) and (c). A Court of Inquiry has been constituted to inquire into the fatal accident occurred on 25.1.94 at New Kenda Colliery of Eastern Coalfields Limited. The findings of the Court of Inquiry are awaited.

The other accidents were inquired into by the Directorate General of Mines Safety as provided in the Mines Act, 1952.

(d) The Mines Act, 1952 and the rules and regulations framed thereunder provide for safety measures. While primary responsibility lies with the mine managements, DGMS ensures enforcement of the provisions through inspections and prosecutions etc. Mandatory guidelines are also issued by the DGMS from time to time. Apart from the statutory measures. Supporting activities like organising of safety weeks, safety conferences, training of work persons, safety awards etc., are undertaken by the DGMS.

[English]

#### Revival Scheme for T.C.I.

2798. SHRI V.SREENIVASA PRASAD:  
SHRI INDERAJIT GUPTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the revival scheme of BIFR for Tyre Corporation of India Limited;

(b) whether some of the financial institutions including Allahabad Bank have backed out of the revival proposal; and

(c) if so, the corrective steps taken or proposed to be taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V.CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) to (c). The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that the case of M/s. Tyre Corporation of India Ltd. (TCIL) was last heard by it on 06.03.1995 to hear suggestions/objections, if any, to the draft revival scheme. BIFR, a quasi-judicial body, would take a decision in respect of TCI as per provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, after hearing the views of all concerned, including the banks.

#### Unemployment

2799. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up plans to give adequate new employment opportunities to bidi workers in view of the introduction of anti-bidi legislation; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposed plan and finances allocated for this purpose State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A.SANGMA):  
(a) and (b). The proposed legislation of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare merely seeks to ban advertisement of tobacco products and does not envisage a ban on use or sale of tobacco. Therefore, it is felt that there is no significant threat of unemployment among beedi workers at present as a result.

[Translation]

#### Smuggling of Opium

2800. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:  
SHRI RAM PAL SINGH:  
SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH :  
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARTIA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that opium is being illegally exported in large quantities from the country;

(b) if so, the estimated loss of foreign exchange earnings due to illegal export of opium during 1993-94; and

(c) the stringent action taken by the Government to check the illegal export of opium?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V.CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) No large scale illegal export of opium from the country has been noticed. However, during 1994, a total 3.186 kgs of opium was seized while being attempted to be exported illegally from the country.

(b) Illegal export of opium being a clandestine activity, the estimated loss of foreign exchange earnings cannot be made.

(c) Production and export of opium is regulated under strict control and supervision by the Central Government. Various Law Enforcement agencies keep strict vigil over poppy cultivation and stringent penal measures are taken under the NDPS Act for any violation.

[English]

#### Cases Against Customs Officials

2801. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:  
DR. SUDHIR RAY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

the details of C.B.I. probes undertaken against customs officials over the past three years ?