

The promoters' contributions are, therefore, by way of fresh injection of funds as distinct from internal generation and proceeds from sale of assets already charged. Proceeds from sale of assets not so charged are, however, taken as promoters' contribution.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected and to the extent available, will be laid on the table of the House.

Setting up of Special Courts to Try Economic Offenders

156. SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up special courts to try economic offenders in metropolitan cities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and when these courts will be set up?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). There are 14 Special Courts already functioning in different cities, including some of the metropolitan cities, for speedy trial of economic offenders.

Bottlenecks In Exports

158. SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) has urged the Government to remove the bottlenecks in export activities; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the steps proposed to be taken to boost exports?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRISHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): (a) and (b). The National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) has conducted a study on 'India's Export Performance and Policy' at the instance of the Planning Commission and submitted a draft Report to them which has not been accepted by the Planning Commission who have suggested alternatives and modifications to be carried out.

Gold Prices

159. SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT: SHRI B. DEVARAJAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of gold increased to an all time record high level as the news of the Gulf war spread;

(b) if so, whether the Government have since contemplated any steps to bring down the prices of gold; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The price of standard gold recorded a peak of Rs. 3850/- per 10 gms. in the Bombay market on 17.1.91 on the first day of Gulf War. In the Madras market it recorded a peak of Rs. 4000/- on 18.1.91. But subsequently the price declined gradually and is currently prevailing at the level Rs. 3356/- per 10 gms. in Bombay market on 20.2.91.

(b) and (c). Since Gold is not an essential commodity Government do not regulate its price.