

[English]

Merger of DRI Scheme with IRDP

5212. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal for the merger of DRI Scheme with IRDP;

(b) if so, the main purpose of such merger; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to strengthen DRI and IRDP in the Seventh Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The Government have not taken any decision to merge the Differential Rate of Interest Scheme (DRI) with Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP).

Since the Seventh Plan has yet to be finalised it is not possible to specifically list out at this stage the steps that would be taken to strengthen IRDP during the Seventh Plan. As regards DRI Scheme the Government is examining the recommendations of a Task Force that had been set up to examine and made recommendations on, *inter alia*, the various provisions of the DRI Scheme and the modifications, if any, considered necessary.

Per Capita Investment in U.T.I. and L.I.C.

5213. SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are finalising a scheme to boost equity cult in rural areas;

(b) whether per capita investments in Unit Trust of India and Life Insurance Corporation by public in rural areas are comparable to similar figures pertaining to urban areas and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Government are examining a proposal for the further development of equity cult in semi-urban and rural areas.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

News Item Captioned—'Ek Karor Ke Ghaple Mein Paanch Custom Adhikari Muatal'

5214. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Ek Karor Ke Ghaple Main Paanch Custom Adhikari Muatal" appeared in 'Jansatta' of 12 April, 1985;

(b) if so, whether no action has been taken against the Assistant Collector responsible for hatching the conspiracy to smuggle;

(c) the tenure of posting at airports and whether that is followed strictly;

(d) whether the system is working satisfactorily or does it want some going through;

(e) the number of customs and central excise Inspectors and above who are under suspension, and since when; and

(f) the reasons therefor and full details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Action has been taken against the concerned Assistant Collector and he has been placed under suspension with effect from 13-4-1985.

(c) There is no fixed tenure of posting at the Export Cargo Complex at the Airports. The officers and staff are, however, rotated periodically. Of the officers posted in the Airpool, a tenure of 2 to 3 years has been fixed which is generally adhered to.

(d) The working is reviewed periodically and necessary action is taken to bring about improvements. This system is working satisfactorily.

(e) and (f). In the case referred to in the news item referred at (a) above, one Superintendent and four Inspectors were placed under suspension on 11-4-1985 and one Assistant Collector on 13-4-1985 for suspected involvement in allowing export of garments mis-declared as "Indian Items" and/or "Handloom Items".