

(a) the approximate amount of central excise and customs dues remaining unpaid or unrecovered on account of injunctions or stay orders issued by courts;

(b) the steps taken by Government to recover the dues; and

(c) whether Government propose to impose deterrent interest liability on those who delay the payment of central excise and customs dues ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Most of the cases relate to issues having a bearing on rate of duty, valuation and, in some Central Excise cases, excisability of products, Quantification of revenues involved in individual cases is possible only after Court decisions are available.

(b) Law Ministry and the Government Counsels appointed by that Ministry have been approached to take all possible steps to move applications before the courts for vacation of injunctions or stay orders. Recovery of dues after vacation of injunctions or stay orders by the courts is effected from importers and Central Excise assesses in accordance with Court's orders in individual cases and the provisions of Customs Act, 1962 and the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944 and the Rules made thereunder.

(c) There is no such provision under the law. However in cases where request are accepted for payment of the arrears in instalments, a condition is included for recovery of interest on the dues.

Regional Rural Banks in Madhya Pradesh

2802. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have approved few new regional rural banks in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the schedule of opening these banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). As at the end of year 1984-85, the State of Madhya Pradesh had 22 Regional Rural Banks covering 40 districts out of the total 45 districts in the State.

Two additional Regional Rural Banks for establishment in Madhya Pradesh have been recommended by NABARD. While one of the two recommended RRBs is intended to provide coverage to Gwalior and Datia districts, the other one proposes to cover the two districts of Vidisha and Bhopal. Government have not taken any final decision in this regard.

International Debts

2803. SHRI HANUMANTU APPAYYA DORA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the context of the debts outstanding for the country, Government are aware of the dimensions and dangers of international debts as experienced by several other less developed countries and if so, the remedial steps taken/proposed; and

(b) whether Government propose to review its present policies of gift imports of milk products, vegetable oils etc., in the light of their own experience with PL 480 wheat and experience of other countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir. Some developing countries have faced serious external debt servicing problems in recent years. India has however managed its external debt within prudent limits. The balance of payments and the external debt position is kept under constant review so that no difficulties are faced in meeting our debt service obligations.

(b) Gift imports of milk products, edible oils, etc., are allowed after due consideration of the need for and the likely impact of such imports on the domestic economy.

[Translation]

Rise in Prices of Consumer Goods

2804. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :
DR. A. K. PATEL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to Labour Bureau the consumer price index in Delhi which was 100 in 1960 increased to 600 in January,