

current accounts of the borrowers were also granted and irregularities in them have been observed. In accordance with the provisions contained in the relevant statutes, further information in relation to the individual constituents if the banks cannot be disclosed.

(b) Reserve Bank of India has been issuing guidelines to banks from time to time. Besides, large advances, beyond a certain cut off point (presently Rs. 4 crores), in some cases require prior authorisation of Reserve Bank of India under Credit Authorisation Scheme. On 15th November, 1983 and 26th November, 1983 the Reserve Bank of India had issued specific instructions to banks in regard to allowing drawals against cheques in clearing and opening of letters of credit, issue of guarantees, co-acceptance of bills etc. Further instruction with regard to co-acceptance of bills have again been issued on 12th February 1985. The banks have also been advised regarding control, monitoring of advances and responsibility, on 8th April, 1983 and 8th December, 1984.

(c) The Reserve Bank of India has carried out a scrutiny of books and accounts of the branches of Bank of Baroda at Calcutta and its Central Office at Bombay and also of branches of other banks which had discounted bills co-accepted by Bank of Baroda. The Central Bureau of Investigation has also registered cases and their investigations are in progress. In the meantime the bank has suspended certain officials involved in the fraud and the departmental enquiries are proposed to be conducted in consultation with the CBI.

#### Detection of Excise Evasion Cases

262 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has launched an offensive against excise evasion, if so, its outcome and the amount involved in each case where it exceeds Rs. 1 crore;

(b) whether his Ministry is also having a fresh look at the operations of revenue intelligence agencies and examining some of the old cases of excise evasion to ascertain whether there was any deliberate attempt on the part of the officials to favour any parties; and

(c) if so, the outcome of this investigation and necessary action taken to recover the evaded duty and against the officials concerned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) :

(a) Yes, Sir, Drive against evasion of excise duty has recently been accelerated. During the first two months of 1985, about 1103 cases involving estimated evasion of excise duty of Rs. 2734.00 lakh (approx.) have been detected. There are a few cases in which estimated evasion of duty is more than rupees 1 crore.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

#### Raids Conducted by Directorate of Anti-Evasion (Excise)

263. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINCH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate of Anti-Evasion (Excise) has conducted a series of raids in godowns and other business premises of manufacturers of different items in some of the major cities in the country during the last two-three months; and

(b) if so, the details of such raids conducted in each city and the goods and other documents seized ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) :

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the drive against the evasion of excise duty, the Directorate of Anti-Evasion (Central Excise) has conducted searches of about 400 premises of manufacturers of excisable goods and their dealers during 1985.

The commodities involved are computers, office machines, cotton fabrics, glass sheets, car body builders, coated fabrics, copper and copper alloys (pipes and tubes). The total amount of excise duty sought to be evaded is about Rs. 16.75 crores (approx.)

**Tea Industry Suffering Due to Low Price at International Level**

264. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the tea industry is suffering due to international manipulators who price Indian tea at the same level as inferior tea produced by other countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have taken any measures to break this foreign strangle-hold with a view to see that Indian tea fetches a reasonable price ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):

(a) Pure Indian teas fetch higher prices in the International market as compared to teas from other countries. Unit f.o.b. export price for India, Srilanka and Kenya, during the past three years is as follows :

(US Dollar per kg)

	1981	1982	1983
India	2.08	1.98	2.45
Sri-Lanka	1.79	1.68	2.22
Kenya	1.79	1.81	1.84

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Stagnation in the Indian Economic Service**

265. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether four hundred young economists recruited by the UPSC through All India Competitive Examination are stagnating for the last ten to

fifteen years in the Indian Economic Service; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to improve the prospects of officers of this service ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) :

(a) and (b) No Sir. However, with a view to improving the prospects of the service, a cadre review is being undertaken by Government.

**Loan Given Under Various Schemes by Branches of Nationalised Banks in Jahanabad, Gaya District**

266. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of the branches of nationalised banks in the Jahanabad sub-division of Gaya district in Bihar;

(b) the amount of loans given so far under agriculture irrigation and self-employment schemes by these branches;

(c) whether interest is charged even on the exempted amount of loan sanctioned for irrigation purposes (tube wells) by the banks; and

(d) if so, the justification therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) According to available information, as at the end of December, 1984 there were 137 branches of commercial banks operating in Gaya District of Bihar. Of these 64 branches were those of Public Sector Banks.

(b) Data reporting system does not yield purpose-wise and scheme-wise information for each Sub-Division of the country in the manner desired. Targets and achievements of all banks in Gaya District under Action Plan, 1983 and corresponding targets for 1984 are given below :