

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Government is fully committed to take vigorous measures against tax evaders. All possible measures to check tax evasion, including administrative, legislative and institutional, are being taken from time to time.

Export/Import During Seventh Plan

992. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) total estimated value of imports of be made during each of the years in the Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) how these figures compare with the corresponding figures relating to exports targetted to be made under the Seventh Plan; and

(c) the steps contemplated under the Plan to maximise exports and minimise imports to obtain a favourable balance of trade under the Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) and (b). In the Seventh Five Year Plan, imports are projected to increase at an annual rate of 5.8 per cent, to reach a total figure of Rs. 95,400 crores at 1984-85 prices in the five year period 1985-90. Exports are projected to rise by 6.8 per cent per annum to attain a total figure of Rs. 60,700 crores at 1984-85 prices in the five-year period of the Seventh Plan. It may be stated that estimated value of imports and exports for each of the years in the Seventh Five Year Plan are not available.

(c) Policy measures are being continuously evolved for increasing India's exports. These include measures for increasing and diversifying the production making our exports more competitive, finding new markets for our products and processing commodities for higher value realisation. Efforts would be made to gear up these

measures further during the Seventh Plan period.

The Government has taken a number of policy initiatives in the sphere of trade policies, industrial policies and fiscal policies. The current import-export policy which will be operative for a three year period, 1985-88, is designed to introduce an environment of continuity and stability in foreign trade planning. It aims at providing a major thrust towards increase production, both for domestic consumption and exports and to bring about efficient import substitution. Simultaneous efforts are also being made to step up our indigenous production of importables during the Seventh Five Year Plan period, particularly in the sphere of bulk imports.

Tax Collection During the Current Year

993. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether tax collections during the first six months of the current year have been much more than during the last year;

(b) if so, the figures relating to collection of various Central taxes during the said period as compared to those during the corresponding period last year; and

(c) how far the collections this year have met the expectations held out by him during Budget discussion this year ?

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

(b) A Statement showing collection of direct and indirect taxes upto September, 1985 and corresponding figures of collection upto September, 1984 is given below.

(c) The collections of central taxes upto the end of September, 1985 have met the expectations of collections higher than Budget Estimates.