

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state : [Translation]

(a) whether Government have withdrawn the voluntary price-control on vanaspati ghee;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) how the prices of vanaspati have been fixed since the withdrawal of the price control;

(d) how Government propose to keep a watch over the price situation to ensure adequate availability of vanaspati at reasonable price;

(e) whether a code of conduct for the new pattern of pricing and distribution of vanaspati has been evolved by the Vanaspati Manufacturers Association; and

(f) if not, the other mechanism that has been evolved by Government protect the consumers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For minimising controls and keeping in view the satisfactory availability and reasonable prices of vanaspati the voluntary price agreement was withdrawn in January, 1986.

(c) The prices of vanaspati are ruling at reasonable levels determined by the interaction of demand and supply in the market.

(d) A watch is kept on market price of vanaspati through officials of the Directorate of Vanaspati, Vegetable Oils and Fats and with the help of State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. Remedial measures, including effective supply management of imported oils will be taken to ensure adequate availability and reasonable prices for consumers.

(e) Not to our knowledge.

(f) As in (d) above.

Raids on premises of Income Tax Officers

29. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recovered huge amount of goods and cash in the raids conducted on the premises of Income Tax Officers in the past few months;

(b) if so, the particulars of such officers and the details of the goods recovered;

(c) whether Government have taken any action against these officers so far;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir. Some goods and cash have been recovered in the raids conducted on the premises of some Income-tax officers since October, 1985.

(b) Raids have been conducted by the CBI since October, 1985 on the premises of 9 Income-tax Officers. At this stage it would not be appropriate to disclose the names of these officers and the particulars of the assets seized as such disclosure would hamper the investigations.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Four of these officers have been placed under suspension and further investigation by the CBI is continuing in all the cases.

(e) In view of the above, question does not arise.

[English]

Increase in revenue collections

30. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been any increase in revenue collections of the Union Government during April-December, 1985;

(b) if so, the total collections from direct and indirect taxes respectively and the percentage of increase over the corresponding period of 1984; and

(c) the estimates of total collections for

1985-86 and the figures of budget targets and the revised targets ?

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

(b) Total collections from direct and indirect taxes and the percentage of increase over the corresponding period of 1984 is as follows :

	Collection in crores of Rupees		
	April-Dec. 1985	April-Dec. 1984	Percentage increase
(i) Direct Taxes	3392.70	2746 05	23.55
(ii) Indirect Taxes	15913.89	12956.26	22.83

(c) Budget Estimates of total collection for Direct Taxes are Rs. 4942.50 crores and for Indirect Taxes are Rs. 20392.64 crores for 1985-86.

The revised estimates both for direct and indirect taxes for 1985-86 are still to be finalised.

Illegal import of wool-tops

31. PROF. RAMAKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that despite ban on the import of wool-tops imposed in August, 1984, its illegal import for domestic consumption is continuing;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the modus operandi of the importers involved in the illegal import of wool-tops and the action taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) to (c). According to a newspaper report, import of

wool tops has been made in the garb of wool waste. Feats are being ascertained from the Customs Authorities.

Legislation to control activities of non-banking financial companies

32. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the existing provisions in the law are inadequate to control the activities of the non-banking financial companies in the country; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to bring forward a comprehensive legislation to control activities of non-banking financial companies in the country and protect the interests of small depositors ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Non-Banking Financial Companies are incorporated bodies registered under the Companies Act, 1956. These Companies are therefore, subjected to and are required to comply with the various provisions of the Companies Act including filing the requisite returns with the Registrar of Companies. The deposit acceptance activity of these