

Growing rate of unemployment

115. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that during the pre-budget discussion with him, the leaders of trade unions spoke alarmingly about the growing rate of unemployment;

(b) whether they generally felt that introduction of computerisation and adoption of intensive technology would generate unemployment; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

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

(b) Views were expressed by the representatives of Trade Unions regarding the introduction of computerisation and adoption of new technology. While some were opposed, others stressed the need for the adoption of a balanced approach in regard to these.

(c) The observations would be kept in view in the strategy and the overall economic policy for development.

[Translation]

Raids on trading and commercial establishments in Jhansi

116. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in 'Nav Bharat Times' of 3rd February, 1986 wherein it has been stated that income-tax authorities unearthed case to the tune of lakhs of rupees and jewellery, etc. in raids on various trading and commercial establishments in Jhansi on 2 February, 1986;

(b) if so, the names of the persons and trade establishments on whom raids were conducted; and

(c) the details of the total assets unearthed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARI) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir, Income-tax Department conducted searches on 30th and 31st January, 1986 at Jhansi. The main persons searched are Shri Sita Ram Aggarwal, Shri Radhey Shyam, Shri R. K. Nachola and M/s. Bhagwan Das & Brothers. The searches resulted in seizure of cash of Rs. 3.77 lakhs, jewellery worth Rs. 24.59 lakhs and other assets worth Rs. 19.50 lakhs approximately.

Increase in prices of foodgrains

117. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of foodgrains at the time when the farmers sell their foodgrains to the traders are very low while the prices of foodgrains are doubled after some days when the consumers or farmers purchase it from the trader;

(b) if so, the percentage of this increase as per Government figures; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to check this tendency ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) The Government of India have no such information. However, Government extends price support to foodgrains to prevent distress sale by the farmers.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[English]

Financing of working capital needs of small scale industrial units by Commercial Banks

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the role of commercial banks in financing working capi-