

(a) the number of raids conducted against big business houses and officials, separately, for unearthing black money during April, May and June, 1986;

(b) the amount of tax evasions noticed under the above two categories as a result of those raids ;

(c) the incriminating documents, silver, gold, cash, bank balance etc. found from each person ; and

(d) details of prosecutions launched against the tax evaders ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Excise Duty Cigarettes

214. SHRI H.M. PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi High Court has upheld Governments' viewpoint to levy excise duty on Cigarettes on an ad valorem basis ;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken steps to recover the deferred excise duties from Cigarette Companies ; and

(c) if so, the amount collected since the judgement was delivered ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) By their order dated the 1st May, 1986, the Hon'ble Delhi High Court upheld the Government's contention that excise duty at the effective rate should be deducted from the cum-duty price of excisable commodities for the purpose of arriving at the assessable value, whereas the cigarette companies had been contending that excise duty at the tariff rate should have been allowed to be deducted for this purpose.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) An amount of Rs. 73.49 crores has so far been recovered as excise dues from

the concerned cigarette companies since the Delhi High Court judgement was delivered.

Tourism Advisory Board

215. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the details of suggestions made by the Tourism Advisory Board for promoting international tourist traffic to India as well as domestic tourism ; and

(b) the other measures being taken to attract foreign tourists to India and boost this industry ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SYED) : (a) The Tourism Advisory Board which met in February, 1984, suggested the following measures for the increase of international and domestic tourism :

(i) Introduction of charters, (ii) stop over traffic, (iii) measures to attract leisure and beach traffic and (iv) speedy airport clearance.

(b) The following are some of the concrete measures taken to attract foreign tourists to India :

(i) Projecting India as not only a cultural destination but also as a country for holiday and leisure tourism with her monuments, the beaches, the wildlife, the trekking and mountaineering, river rafting and other forms of adventure tourism.

(i) India is being promoted as a place for holding Conferences, Conventions and Exhibitions in a big way.

(ii) Besides advertising in the print media electronic media is also being utilised.

(iv) "Hard Sell" advertising is being undertaken through general publications, TV, Radio etc. in addition to Travel Trade magazine.

- (v) Attractive literature, films, audio-visuals etc. highlighting India as holiday resort are being produced in English and all the major foreign languages.
- (vi) Financial assistance is given to foreign travel agents and tour operators to produce literature publicising India tours by our overseas offices.
- (vii) India is participating in various trade fairs, exhibitions etc. abroad with the Department of Tourism joining hands with Air India ITDC, Indian Airlines and Indian Travel Trade to get maximum coverage.
- (viii) A campaign to take advantage of the "Festivals of India" recently concluded in USA has been undertaken.
- (ix) High level promotional seminars both in India and abroad are being organised for promoting India in Travel Trade circles overseas.
- (x) Stepping up of Departments' hospitality to media people and Travel Agents and Tour Operators has been undertaken.

[*Translation*]

Smuggling of Molasses

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

(a) whether it is a fact that smuggling of molasses in the country has been continuing on a large scale ;

(b) how many persons have been apprehended during the last three years on charge of such smuggling and the action taken or being taken against them ; and

(c) other steps contemplated by Government to check this smuggling ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Reports received by the Government and seizures

made do not indicate smuggling of molasses into/out of the country.

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

Representation to open Show-Room of NTC at Ram Nagar, U.P.

217. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any representation has been received from the public representatives for opening a showroom of National Textile Corporation at Ram Nagar, Uttar Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon ; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Opening of show-rooms will be considered only after assessing the demand and reviewing the performance of the two show-rooms opened last year. However, at present, there is no proposal to open any show-room in Uttar Pradesh during 1986-87.

[*English*]

Export of Marine Products to Japan

218. SHRI R.S. MANE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the actual quantity of marine products exported to Japan has come down during last year ;

(b) whether a study is being conducted to determine the causes of decline in shrimp catches ; and

(c) the steps being taken to assist the industry ?