

(b) Efforts are made through periodical checks of records and returns, surveillance of suspected units, transit checks and audit checks to ensure that those factories do not evade payment of Central Excise duty.

(c) Comparative figures of collection of Central Excise duty from above factories are given below :—

Year	Central Excise duty collected (Rs. in crores)
1984-85 (April-October)	105.16
1985-86 (April-October)	124.28
1986-87 (April-October)	131.23
1987-88 (April-October)	131.51

(d) A proposal for restructuring the whole Customs and Central Excise Department also containing measures for strengthening Anti-Evasion and Anti-Smuggling machinery is presently under consideration by the Government.

Gold Confiscated During 1986-87

1057. SHRI MANIK REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) The volume of gold confiscated during the year 1986-87; and

(b) main source of confiscation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI) : (a) The volume of gold confiscated during 1986-87 was 1067.395 Kgs.

(b) The highest confiscation of gold was done by Bombay Customs.

Vegetable Oil Import

1058. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of vegetable oil imported during last three years and through which agencies, by way of gifts or commercial;

(b) the details of its distribution to each State with its price year-wise;

(c) whether the release of gifts was not done through Publish Distribution System and the State Agencies and if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether gifted oil was largely released in oil producing States in order to depress local prices; and

(e) whether this has resulted in depressing production as happened earlier for gift wheat and milk imports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it becomes available.

Export of Betel Leaves

1059. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the details of the steps taken or proposed to be taken for the export of betel leaves to different countries ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : The export potential of betel leaves is limited. Exports are primarily being made to Middle East countries which has sizeable ethnic community which consume this item. The consumption of betel leaves being limited, no specific proposals for increasing its exports are envisaged.

Assets of Transnational Corporation Companies

1060. SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the period between 1975-76 and 1980-81 the assets of 314 mixed Transnational Corporation companies and branch offices in India have increased 1.74 times and are about rupees forty seven thousand million;

(b) if so, whether economy of India in the long run would be affected; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI) : (a) According to the information compiled by the Department of Company Affairs, there were 481 branches and 171 subsidiaries of foreign companies functioning in India as on 31-3-1976. The assets of these companies as on the said date were Rs. 37000 million. As on 31-3-1981, there were 300 branches and 111 subsidiaries of foreign companies and assets of these Companies amounted to Rs. 47000 million.

(b) and (c) Adequate powers are available under the legal and administrative framework of the country for regulating the entry into and the subsequent functioning in India of foreign companies.

Applications for Import of Penicillin-V

1061. SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications for import of penicillin-V cleared during the last 12 months by the Chief Controller of Import & Exports;

(b) the number of applications rejected; and

(c) if so, under what provisions these have been rejected and if not, by when those applications will be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) During the last 12 months (from 1st November, 1986 to 31st October, 1987) 2 applications were approved for import of Penicillin-V.

(b) 2 applications for import of Penicillin-V were rejected during the above period.

(c) The above applications were rejected as these two units had been using Penicillin-G as the raw material and had been allowed some imports of Penicillin-G in proportion to the lifting of indigenous material by them. At present Penicillin-V is not

produced in the country. However, since Penicillin-G is indigenously available, switchover from the use of Penicillin-G to Penicillin-V, as raw material, is not permitted. Import of Penicillin-V is being allowed where a manufacturer could use only Penicillin-V, and not Penicillin-G, as raw material.

Retail Price for Janata Cloth

1062. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the retail price for Janata cloth has been raised; and

(b) if so, the details thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The consumer price for Janata Cloth is revised from time to time based on proposals received from State Govts. However, a general 15% increase in the consumer price of Janata Cloth for all States was allowed in July 1981.

SC/ST Employees in Central Bank of India

1063. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state zone-wise and category-wise, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe backlog position of subordinate cadre as on 30th September, 1987 in Central Bank of India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : Central Bank of India has reported the zone-wise and category-wise, backlog position of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe in subordinate cadre as on 30th June, 1987 as under :—

Zones	Backlog (Recruitment)	
	Scheduled Caste	Scheduled Tribe
1	2	3
Ahmedabad	—	15
Bhopal	1	19
Bombay	—	—