

(b) whether it is a fact that huge quantity of dry fruit licences have been granted, if so, the names of party/parties to whom such licences have been given during last three years together with value; and

(c) whether it is a fact that a new person is not eligible to get such a import licence, if so, reasons therefor and the steps that are proposed to be taken to remove such trade restrictive and monopolistic policies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) Yes, Sir. In terms of the import policy for 1977-78, the import of dry fruits is licensed freely. Imports under the Trade arrangements with Afghanistan, etc., are also continuing, as before. Under the policy of free licensing import licences for dry fruits are issued for a maximum value of Rs. 10,000/- to each applicant.

(b) The number and value of licences issued upto September, 1977, under the policy of free licensing is as follows:—

No.	Value (Rs. in crores)
4889	5.93

The number and value of import licences issued for import of dry fruits during 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77 under the Trade Arrangements with Afghanistan, etc. were as follows:—

Period	No.	Value (Rs. in crores)
1974-75	5434	13.19
1975-76	3535	13.44
1976-77	3355	12.64

The details of licences issued by the Import and Export Trade Control Organisation are published in the

weekly Bulletin of Industrial Licences, Import Licences & Export Licences, copies of which are supplied to Parliament Library.

(c) No, Sir. Under the liberalised policy, all persons are eligible to get import licences for dry fruits for stock and sale.

Firms against whom Income Tax, Wealth Tax and Estate Duty over Rupees Twenty-five lakhs is outstanding

3387. SHRI L. L. KAPOOR:
SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHRY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge arrears of Income tax, Wealth tax and Estate duty have accumulated; and

(b) if so, the names of such firms who owe more than Rupees 25 lakhs, period over which pending and the steps taken may please be indicated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLAH): (a) The arrears of Income-tax Wealth-tax and Estate Duty which were outstanding as on 31-3-1977 are given below:

	Income-tax	Wealth-tax	Estate Duty
(Figures in crores of Rs.)			
Gross arrears	873.56	52.75	15.56
Net arrears	569.84	33.82	9.24

(b) On the basis of information presently available; the names and other requisite information in respect of the firms (i.e., partnership concerns) against whom income-tax arrears of more than 25 lakhs were outstanding on 31-3-1977 are given in the statement annexed.

As on 31-3-1977, there was no firm against which wealth-tax or estate duty, exceeding Rs. 25 lakhs was outstanding.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Firm	Date and amount of the earliest demand pending		Steps taken for recovery
		Date	Amount (Rs. in Lakhs)	
1	M/s Chaman Lal & Bros. Bombay	20-2-71	0.29	Depending on the facts and circumstances of each case, suitable steps are taken from time to time by the Income-tax authorities concerned for recovery of tax arrears in accordance with the provisions of the Income-tax Act, 1961. The steps include — (a) Levy of interest for delayed payment of tax; (b) imposition of penalty for non-payment of tax; (c) attachment of monies due to the defaulter; and (d) attachment and sale of movable/immovable properties.
2	M/s Ganesh Narayan Onkarmal, Bombay	A.Y. 59.60 (Date not available)	0.64	
3	M/s Gangadhar Baijnath, Kanpur	17-10-42	2.52	
4	M/s Guru Nanak Finance Co., Delhi	11-11-75	2.03	
5	M/s Girilal Mamchand & Co., Ghaziabad	27-3-74	28.00	
6	M/s Hindustan General Agencies, Calcutta	23-6-64	0.01	
7	M/s. J.R. Pillani, Bombay	EPT	N.A.	
8	M/s Jain Metal Industries Bombay	21-8-74	2.37	
9	M/s Luxmi Wire & Metal Industries, Nanded.	23-7-75	0.03	
10	M/s Madhusudan Gordhandas & Co., Bombay.	15-3-67	0.78	
11	M/s Mannoolal Kedar Nath, Kanpur	7-3-75	2.72	
12	M/s Maganlal Hukam Chand, Indore	A.Y. 61.62 (Date not available)	0.01	
13	M/s Pathak Bros. , Meerut	15-9-73	0.04	
14	M/s Pattu Padamanabha Chetty & Sons, Madras	10-5-69	0.35	
15	M/s Reliable Traders, Bombay	30-3-74	2.81	
16	M/s R. B. Shreeram Durga Prasad & Fatehchand Narsinghdas (Export) Firm, Nagpur	15-3-66	0.25	
17	M/s Ramkrishan Ramuath, Kamptee	15-3-63	0.06	
18	M/s R.N. Shroff, Nadiad	12-3-74	9.59	
19	M/s Shreeram & Sons, Calcutta	22-3-63	0.06	
20	M/s Surajmul Nagarmull, Calcutta	7th C.A.P. A.Y. 46.47 (Date not available)	45.15	

1	2	3	4	5
21	M/s. Synfibre Sales Corpn., Modinagar .	25-9-75	9'66	} Same as on previous page.
22	M/s. Sahib Singh & Sons, Bombay	18-1-75	0'05	
23	M/s. S.B. Sugar Mills, Bijnore	28-5-75	1'08	
24	M/s. Sree Balaji Trading Co., Tirupattur.	10-9-76	25'46	
25	M/s. T.D. Murty & Co., Madras	A.Y. 68-69 (Date not available)	0'74	
26	M/s. Universal Book Stall, Kanpur	24-3-77	25'62	
27	M/s. Venkateswara Ferry Co., Rajah- mundry	18-11-70	0'42	

Import of Sugar in U.S.A.

3388. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the U.S. Government have decided to take some measures to reduce the import of sugar into their country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and to what extent this step will affect the export of sugar from our country;

(c) whether this measure will go against the aims of the International sugar agreement; and

(d) if so, the details and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) and (b). On 12th November, 1977, the President of U.S.A. issued proclamations under which import duty on sugar was enhanced to 2.98125 cents per pound (for 100 degree polarity) and a fee was imposed @ 50 per cent *ad-valorem* on sugar imports valued at not more than 6.67 cents per pound. On sugar imports valued at more than 6.67 cents per pound but not more than 10 cents per pound, the fee would equal to the difference between 10 cents and the value of sugar.

The objective of the U.S. action is understood to be to bring the wholesale domestic price upto the floor price determined by US Congress. No new quantitative restrictions have, however, been imposed.

No export of sugar from India to USA is presently contemplated. The prospects for exports of sugar to USA would largely depend upon the extent and type of restrictions which would be maintaining by U.S.A. from early next year. They would also depend upon the prospects of the new International Sugar Agreement coming into operation and the extent to which it would succeed in stabilising the International sugar market.

(c) and (d). The current International Sugar Agreement has no economic clauses and objectives as the Agreement was envisaged as an interim arrangement pending finalisation of a new Agreement with economic clauses.

Visit of Chinese Trade Mission to India

3389: SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN:

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether China has expressed her desire to increase its trade with India;