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The above amendments are effective from 1-4-1978 and will accordingly apply in relation to the assessment year 1978-79 and subsequent years.

Enquiry into embezzlement of funds in treasury of central excise collectorate, Delhi

4246. SHRI MOHAN LAL PIPIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 6486 on the 5th August, 1977 regarding embezzlement of funds in the Treasury of Central Excise Collectorate, Delhi and state:

(a) whether the Chief Controller of Accounts, Central Board of Excise and Customs has completed the enquiry into the case regarding the embezzlement of funds in the treasury of the Central excise Collectorate, Delhi and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Central Excise Collectorate, Delhi has also carried out investigations into the case by themselves, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it has also been revealed in the investigations that part of the money had been withdrawn by the employees for meeting the personal requirements of a senior official?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL): (a) The Chief Controller of Accounts, Central Board of Excise and Customs has since completed the enquiry and has submitted the report. According to the report, the Cashier, himself and in collaboration with a few other officials, is responsible for temporary misappropriation and embezzlement of funds in the treasury of the Delhi Central Excise Collecto-

rate. It, however, appears necessary to have a more detailed investigation of the matter undertaken by the Central Bureau of Investigation before responsibility could be fixed on individual officers.

(b) The Central Excise Collectorate, Delhi had conducted a preliminary investigation in June-July, 1977. However, since the Chief Controller of Accounts, Central Board of Excise and Customs was entrusted with a detailed investigation of the matter early in August, 1977, the Delhi Collectorate did not pursue its enquiry separately.

(c) While the names of two Assistant Collectors are mentioned in the list of persons to whom advances are said to have been made, the report submitted by the Chief Controller of Accounts, Central Board of Excise and Customs, does not reveal that money had been withdrawn by the employees for meeting the personal requirements of a senior officials.

Discontinuation of Deduction of Premia of L.I.C. Policies under Salary Savings Scheme by Management of Singareni Collieries

4247. SHRI PURNA SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the management of Singareni Collieries of Andhra Pradesh which is owned by the Andhra Pradesh Government, has discontinued to deduct the premia of life insurance policies under the salary savings scheme numbering 33,000 exposing the policies to lapse by demanding service charges from the Life Insurance Corporation;

(b) whether lapse of these policies will involve the loss of Rs. 1.5 crores annually to the Life Insurance Corporation;

(c) if so, what steps Government are going to take in order to ensure that the premia be collected by deduction from the wages of the Singareni Collieries workers and continue to give them the benefit of the scheme; and