

**Memorandum from Gold Smiths' Organisation, Maharashtra**

937. SHRI GANGADHER APPA BURANDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any memorandum from Gold Smiths Organisation, Maharashtra Pradesh Subarnakar Sangh dated 20-7-77 addressed to Prime Minister has been received; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken on their demands?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). A memorandum dated 20-7-1977 from the Maharashtra Pradesh Sawarnkar Sangh, addressed to the Prime Minister was forwarded to this Ministry by the Prime Minister's office. The memorandum contained certain demands for liberalisation of the provisions of Gold (Control) Act relating to the goldsmiths as also a plea for affording further relief measures such as concession in the matter of employment and write-off of rehabilitation loans granted to the goldsmiths. The various points raised in the representation are under the consideration of the Government and certain propo-

sals for the amendment of the Gold (Control) Act are being considered.

**Excise duty Imposed on Khandasari**

938. SHRI GANGADHER APPA BURANDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state how much excise duty has been imposed on Khandasari since March, 1975?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): The rate of central excise duty applicable to khandasari sugar is 17½ per cent *ad valorem* 116 per cent Basic Excise Duty under the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944 and 2½ per cent Additional Duty under the Additional Duties of Excise (Goods of Special Importance) Act, 1957]. These rates have been in force from 1-3-1970

Manufacturers have also the option to pay duty on the basis of a compounded levy. The weekly rates of compounded levy, based on the size of centrifugal installed and also whether a sulphitation plant is used or not, as on 1-3-1975 and 30-4-1975 when these were last revised, are given in the annexed statement.

**Statement**

Weekly rates of compounded levy for units working with the aid of Sulphitation Plant

Size of Centrifugal				With effect from	
Height		Diameter		1-3-1975	30-4-1975
Exceeding cms.	Not exceeding cms.	Exceeding cms.	Not exceeding cms.	Rs.	Rs.
..	22.9	..	45.7	1,760	4,400
22.9	30.5	45.7	61.0	2,360	5,900
30.5	45.7	61.0	76.2	3,440	8,600
Not otherwise specified				4,560	11,400
Weekly rates of compounded levy for units working without the aid of Sulphitation Plant					
..	22.9	..	45.7	1,180	2,360
22.9	30.5	45.7	61.0	1,560	3,120
30.5	45.7	61.0	76.2	2,320	4,640
Not otherwise specified				3,040	6,080

The Compounded levy system remained suspended from 1-3-1975 to 30-4-1975.