

(d) whether Government propose to open a regular I.T.O. Office at Port Blair for effecting tax assessment and collection, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA): (a) and (c). The desired information as on 31-10-1980 is as under:

- (i) Tax in arrears Rs. 7.38 lakhs
- (ii) Demand not fallen due for collection Rs. 3.16 lakhs

The above figures include arrears due from salaried assesseees for which separate figures are not available. The main steps taken for recovery are as under:—

(i) Demands raised before 31st March, 1979 still remaining in arrears have been certified to the Tax Recovery Officer concerned.

(ii) The matter of expeditious recovery of tax arrears was recently discussed with the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Administration and the collection of certified demand is expected to be geared up.

(iii) In some of the cases proceedings have been initiated under section 226(3) by the Income-tax Officer; and

(iv) In some other cases, instalments have been allowed. The assesseees are paying the taxes in instalments.

(b) In 457 assessments relating to Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands completed during the financial year 1979-80, the total income determined was Rs. 55.95 lakhs. The total tax payable as a result of these assessments was Rs. 8.84 lakhs; after adjustment for prepaid taxes and refunds due, the net demand raised was Rs. 2.38 lakhs.

(d) According to presently available information, there are only 708 assesseees at Andaman and Nicobar Islands out of which about 70 cases relate to persons claiming refunds or reliefs.

The majority of the remaining cases fall under summary assessment scheme. A survey is proposed to be undertaken and the question of opening an Income-tax Office will be decided after taking into account all relevant factors, including the workload.

Allocation of Steel to Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

3670. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) how much steel in different sizes was allotted to the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands during the last three years, give month-wise figures mentioning the names of the parties;

(b) whether the Steel Authority received indents from the Public Works Department, A&N Islands, for steel and instead of continuous efforts nothing has come out so far;

(c) whether Government are aware that the developmental works of this backward territory has come to a halt; and

(d) if so, when Government proposes to allot steel for Government Construction in Andaman and Nicobar Islands?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Raids Conducted to Unearth Hidden Wealth

3671. SHRI R. L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what measures have been taken by Government to unearth hidden wealth throughout the country during the last six months (from 1-4-1980 onwards) and amount of such wealth detected, seized and returned after levy of penalty tax;