

(b) if so, Government's reaction to each one of the demands and programmes made so far in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The various demands made by the Institute were carefully considered but it was not found possible to accept them. However, the Government is granting dearness relief to pensioners in accordance with the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission. So far, 11 instalments of relief, amounting to a minimum of Rs. 55/- and a maximum of Rs. 275 have been sanctioned. In addition, the Central Government pensioners, who retired prior to 1-1-1973 have been allowed ad hoc relief ranging from Rs. 15/- to Rs. 35/- per month.

Income Tax Arrears

1707. SHRI SUNIL MAITRA :

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the amounts and names of the persons against whom over Rs. one lakh income-tax arrears were due for the last 10 years, separately; and

(b) what steps have been taken against them for all these years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA) (a) : The information regarding the amounts and names of the persons against whom over Rs. one lakh income-tax arrears were due for the last 10 years is not readily available. However, as per the information presently available in the Directorate of Recovery, the names of 101 such persons against each of whom income-tax arrears of Rs. 10 lakhs and above were outstanding as on 31-3-1980 for over 10 years was furnished in reply to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 7443 replied on 8th August, 1980.

(b) The Income-tax Act, 1961 provides for various measures for collection and recovery of tax arrears such as levy of penalty, attachment of money due to the defaulter, distraint and sale of movable property and attachment and sale of immovable property etc. Depending upon the facts and circumstances of each case, suitable steps are taken from time to time by the income-tax authorities concerned for the recovery of taxes-in-arrears.

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In some of the cases, action for collection/recovery of taxes initiated by or at the instance of the department are pending at different stages. In a few cases, the demands are not final as appeals or references are pending before the appellate authorities/courts. In a few other cases, proceedings are pending before the Settlement Commission. There are some cases of companies which have gone into liquidation and the departmental claims are pending before the liquidator. In a number of other cases, there are no assets from which recovery of taxes could be effected; in such cases proposals for writing off the arrears are at different stages of consideration.

Import of Empty Cassette Shells

1708. SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of firms holding licences to import empty cassette shells from Japan and other countries; and

(b) the terms and conditions for selling these VTRs; and

(c) whether Government have received any complaints of violation of these conditions by such firms ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN) : (a) Particulars of Import Licences are published in the Weekly Bulletin of Import Licences, Export Licences and Industrial Licences, issued by the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports. Copies of these Bulletins are made available to the Parliament Library.

(b) Presumably, the information required is about the terms and conditions subject to which import of video cassettes is allowed. Import of video cassettes is allowed to the Industrial Units approved for the manufacture of video cassette recorders; and with each video cassette recorder produced and sold, they can sell two video cassettes to the customer.

(c) No such complaints has come to notice so far.

अगुचा, राजस्थान में जस्ता प्रदावक संयंत्र की स्थापना करना

1709. श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या जिला भीलवाड़ा (राजस्थान) के अगुचा ग्राम में भारी मात्रा के जस्ता निलेपों की उपलब्धता को देखते हुए और इस क्षेत्र के बिछड़ा क्षेत्र होते हुए वहां पर जस्ता प्रद्रावक संयंत्र की स्थापना करने का विचार है चूंकि यह स्थान सभी दृष्टियों से सब से अधिक उपयुक्त स्थान है ; और

(ख) उक्त संयंत्र की स्थापना करने का निर्णय सरकार द्वारा कब तक लिया जाएगा ?

वाणिज्य तथा इस्पात और खान मंत्री (श्री प्रणव मुखर्जी) : (क) और (ख). छठी पंचवर्षीय योजना (1980-85) के लिए स्कीमें बनाने हेतु सरकार द्वारा गठित अलौह धातु कार्यकारी दल ने अपनी रिपोर्ट (जन 1980) में अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ पश्चिमी क्षेत्र में एक अतिरिक्त जस्ता-सीसा प्रद्रावक लगाने की सिफारिश की थी। प्रस्तावित जस्ता-सीसा प्रद्रावक के लिए जस्ता-सीसा सान्द्रों की पूर्ति का एक स्रोत अगुचा अयस्क निक्षेप है।

हिन्दुस्तान जिंक लिमिटेड ने प्रस्तावित जस्ता-सीसा प्रद्रावक की स्थापना के लिए साध्यता-पूर्व अध्ययन हेतु एक विदेशी परामर्श को नियुक्त किया है। राजस्थान के भीलवाड़ा जिले में रामपुरा अगुचा क्षेत्र भी प्रस्तावित प्रद्रावक के लिए विचाराधीन स्थलों में से एक है। साध्यता-पूर्व अध्ययन में, अन्य बातों के अलावा, अत्यधिक उपयुक्त स्थल के प्रश्न पर भी विचार किया जाएगा। अध्ययन 1981-82 के अन्त तक पूरा हो जाने की आशा है उसके बाद संयंत्र के स्थान के बारे में सरकार निर्णय करेगी।

Exports through STC during last three years

1710. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the exports through the State Trading Corporation during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether new enlarged targets have been envisaged in years ahead and the details thereof; and

(c) what special measures have been adopted to increase non-canalised exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN) : (a) STC's exports during the years 1977-78, 1978-79 & 1979-80 were Rs. 557 crores, Rs. 602 crores and Rs. 636 crores respectively.

(b) The export target for 1984-85 has been fixed at Rs. 784 crores with greater stress on the non-canalised exports. While canalised exports are expected to be about Rs. 283 crores, non-canalised exports are projected at Rs. 501 crores.

(c) Preparation of a long term plan, identifying products and markets for major thrust, functionalisation of activities, programme for creating, expanding and strengthening the supply base suitably, and collaboration with overseas parties for technical know-how and buy-back tie-ups, are some of the important measures taken by the Corporation.

Review of pricing policy of Government

1711. SHRI H. N. GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry are thinking of a review of the pricing policy of Government, with particular reference to retention prices paid to different units; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN) : (a) and (b). Government follows a pragmatic approach in the matter of pricing policies, taking into account the overall requirements of the economy as also balancing the interests between the producers and the consumers. Thus, formulation of pricing policy is a continuous process and adjustments in administered prices, if any, are generally made on