

Delhi) Limited for the purpose of ascertaining the assessable value;

(b) on what basis has this been accepted; and

(c) what are the distribution charges charged by Pure Drinks in Bombay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) and (b). The assessable value for levy of central excise duty is required to be determined in terms of the provisions of Section 4 of the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944. These provisions provide for the assessable value to be the one "at the time and place of removal" of the goods. In the case of M/s Pure Drinks (New Delhi) Limited, such price at the place of removal of the goods is available and the goods are being assessed to duty on the basis of this price. In the circumstances, the question of the Department permitting any distribution charges to the said firm for the purpose of ascertaining the assessable value does not arise. The assessee is, however, charging distribution/delivery charges "per crate of bottles" for deliveries on door-to-door basis, which are Rs. 5.25 for places in Delhi/New Delhi and from Rs. 5.51 to Rs. 6.22 for places outside Delhi, like Ghaziabad, Faridabad, Meerut, which do not form part of the assessable value.

(c) M/s Pure Drinks, Bombay claimed deductions, during the period 19-9-1980 to 2-6-1981, on account of (i) trade discount, (ii) advertisement and publication expenses, (iii) cost of durable Packing, (iv) handling charges and (v) sale promotion expenses. The price-lists had been approved provisionally and enquiries regarding the deductions of items at (ii) to (v) above are being conducted by the concerned jurisdictional officers. However, with effect from 3-6-1981, the assessee is not claiming any of the said charges at (ii) to (v) above.

Withdrawal of Special Pay of Confirmed Upper Division Clerks in Nagpur Central Excise Collectorate

3901. SHRI KESHAORAO PARDHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Special Pay was withdrawn without assigning any reasons from confirmed Upper Division Clerks who were drawing it continuously for more than five years in Nagpur Central Excise Collectorate; and

(b) if not, the reason why it was withdrawn in the year 1976-77 from Senior Upper Division Clerks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) and (b). Some posts of Upper Division Clerks in the Central Excise Department carry special Pay. The special Pay is attached to the post having regard, *inter-alia*, to nature of duties and responsibilities appertaining to it. For appointment to such posts, while seniority is a relevant factor, it is not the sole consideration, suitability being equally important. Further, a person appointed to a special Pay post cannot expect to continue in it indefinitely. The position has to be reviewed from time to time.

The Collector of Central Excise, Nagpur, reviewed the performance in 1976-77 of the Upper Division Clerks posted against the special Pay posts. As a result of the review, five Upper Division Clerks who were found wanting were transferred from the Special Pay posts to non-special pay posts.

Setting up of Steel Depot at Dharmanagar, Tripura

3902. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have got any proposal to set up a steel depot at Dharmanagar or anywhere in Tripura;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose giving transport subsidy to transport steel to Agartala; and

(d) if so, facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). These are matters of commercial nature to be decided by the producers themselves.

(c) and (d). From 15-7-1971 a scheme for transport subsidy, applicable inter-alia, to the whole of the North Eastern Region, for raw materials required by industrial units and for finished goods produced by such units, is in operation. Under the scheme such units are eligible for subsidy to the extent of 50 per cent of the transport cost.

Advertisements for posts for scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes.

3903. SHRI R. N. RAKESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a few months back, N.T.C. Kanpur, have advertised the posts for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes for recruitment to the posts of Assistant Sales Officers Trainees/Sales Officers Trainees;

(b) if so, number of those Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes candidates who have applied with academic qualifications; and

(c) number of candidates who have been actually appointed in N.T.C.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN): (a) to (c). In February, 1981, National Textile Corporation (Uttar Pradesh) Ltd. Kanpur issued a general advertisement inviting applications for Officer Trainees in various discipline, with normal reservation for Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes. In response, more than 6,000 applications have been received which are being processed.

News-item captioned "Price curbs Steps—efficacy doubted"

3904. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI:

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item "price curbs steps—efficacy doubted" published in the "Business Standard" of 2nd August, 1981; and

(b) if so, reaction of Government to it?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) and (b). The Government does not agree with the news-item. As a result of the anti-inflationary steps taken so far the annual rate of inflation has come down significantly.

अफीम की खेती के अधीन जमीन पर अनुपूरक फसल

3905. श्री दीक्षित राम सारण : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या छोटी जोतों वाले किसानों द्वारा अफीम की ही खेती की जाती है क्योंकि छोटी जोतों होने के कारण वे अपनी जमीन से अन्य फसलों के द्वारा जीवन निर्वाह योग्य पर्याप्त आय पैदा नहीं कर सकते ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उनको अफीम की खेती के अधीन अपनी जमीन में कटौती करके किस अनुपूरक फसल को उगाने का परामर्श दिया गया है ?