

Action Against Monopoly Houses to Realise Tax Arrears

8291. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the statement laid on the Table of the House on 20th February, 1982 in implementation of the assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 885 on 21st August, 1981 and state:

(a) whether and what action in accordance with Income-tax Act, 1961 is being taken against the specific monopoly houses in the form of attachment, and sale of movable property, attachment of immovable property etc. to effectively ensure realisation of arrears, and

(b) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) and (b). Complete information about all the cases registered under the monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969 (which can be taken as the cases of monopoly houses referred to in the Question) included in the 9748 cases indicated in the implementation of the assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 885 on 21st August, 1981, is not available. Information is available about the 84 companies registered under the MRTP Act, 1969 against each of which gross income-tax demands exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs were outstanding on 31-3-1981. Out of Rs. 78.01 crores of demands outstanding in these cases as on that date, in the 9 months ending 31st December, 1981, Rs. 26.97 crores (34.6 per cent) have been collected/reduced. Out of the balance demands, Rs. 37.27 crores (47.8 per cent) were not enforceable for various reasons such as verification/adjustment of pre-paid taxes, demands the recovery of which is stayed by various Income-tax authorities/Tribunals/Courts etc. The tax in arrears outstanding on 31-12-81 out of the demands of Rs. 78.01 crores is only Rs. 13.77 crores (17.6 per cent). Even out of these amounts, Rs. 11.58 crores are disputed and in these cases, appellate authorities have been requested for priority disposal of the appeals. Wherever necessary, suitable securi-

ties for the payment of demand which may become ultimately payable have already been obtained. Demand to the extent of Rs. 80 lakhs have to be reduced by giving effect to appellate orders, adjustments, rectifications etc. which were pending as on 31-12-81. The arrears due from companies in liquidation amount to Rs. 25 lakhs and claims have been made before the liquidator. Rs. 78 lakhs are due from two concerns which have been nationalised. In the remaining 1 case, for recovery of the arrears of Rs. 36 lakhs, rental income from a property has been attached. It will thus be seen that there was no company registered under the MRTP Act against which arrears exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs were outstanding on 31-3-81 in which any coercive action by way of attachment and sale of immovable property or sale of movable property etc. had to be taken for ensuring realisation of arrears.

Charter of Demands of All India Banks Deposit Collector Federation

8292. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Banks Deposit Collectors Federation has submitted a charter of Demands to the Finance Minister;

(b) if so, the details thereabout and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what has been the experience of performance of these deposit collectors so far and what improvements are contemplated?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir, a representation has been received from the All India Banks Deposit Collectors' Federation demanding continuance of the scheme of daily deposit collection in various banks on the same terms as have been existing in 1975.

In the past, the deposit collectors have been demanding employee status for themselves with all the attendant benefits. The public sector banks, on the other hand, have been maintaining that the deposit collectors are not the employees of the bank but are only commission agents engaged on contract basis. The banks have reported that their experience of the working of the scheme and the performance of the deposit collectors has not been encouraging and that the scheme is not commercially or economically viable on account of the high cost of collection of funds under the scheme. The public sector banks have reported high incidence of misappropriation of funds and frauds by the daily deposit collectors and pre-mature withdrawal of accounts by the depositors. According to the banks, the scheme requires extensive safeguards, control and checks to prevent misappropriation of funds which is found to be operationally and administratively difficult and uneconomical.

The question whether the banks should continue a particular scheme in the present or a modified form has to be decided by the banks themselves having regard to all relevant factors. The Daily Deposit Collectors, however, have raised industrial disputes and have filed several writ petitions in various High Courts seeking appropriate relief and directions. These cases are *sub-judice*.

Cash Amount or Free Passes in Lieu of L.T.C.

8293. SHRI BHOGEN DRA JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministries of Railway and Planning have given a proposal to give some amount in lieu of L.T.C. (Leave Travel Concession) to Central Government Employees, if so, Government's final decision thereon;

(b) whether it is proposed to give free passes and leave to all Government employees after reasonable periodic gaps to enable them to take advantage of the same

for having a personal direct experience of different parts and aspects of the country;

(c) if so, the details there about; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) The Rail Tariff Enquiry Committee had recommended in its final report that in order to reduce pressure on passenger traffic on the Railways, Central Government employees may be given an option to encash the leave travel concession admissible to them. A similar suggestion was also made by the Planning Commission. Government have not taken a final view in this regard.

(b) to (d). No such proposal is under consideration of the Government. However, the existing scheme of LTC to travel to any place in India once in a period of 4 years already affords an opportunity to the Central Government employees to visit different parts of the country.

Amount Found Missing from Branch of Bank of India at Bangalore

8294. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:

SHRI D. M. PUTTE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a sum of Rs. 1 lakh in 100-rupee notes was found missing from a branch of Bank of India at Bangalore;

(b) whether Government have investigated into the matter; and

(c) if so, details thereof and action contemplated by Government against the culprits?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (c) According to Bank of India, a clerk cashier of its Rajaji Nagar Branch (Bangalore) has reported that on 23rd March, 1982 while receiving cash from the bank's Main Branch at Bangalore, a sum of Rs. 1 lakh was found missing from the trunk in