

Delay in finalisation of cases by Tribunals

5290. SHRI R. PRABHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that arrears of Income-tax, Wealth-tax, Gift-tax and Estate Duty have developed on account of delay in finalisation of the cases at the Tribunal level; and

(b) what remedial measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) and (b). It is not correct that arrears of income-tax, wealth-tax, gift-tax and estate duty have developed on account of any delay in finalisation of the cases at the Tribunal's level. The mere filing of the appeal before the Tribunal does not bar recovery of the arrears. However, under section 220(3) of the Income-tax Act, the Income-tax Officer may, on the application of the assessee, extend the time for payment or allow payment by instalments subject to such conditions as he may think fit to impose in the circumstances of the cases. Normally, where such discretion is exercised by the Income-tax Officer taking into account the pendency of an appeal in the Tribunal, the departmental representative before the Tribunal requests it for expeditious disposal of the appeal. The Tribunal also may, invoking its inherent powers, order stay of recovery of taxes in some cases. Whenever such stay is granted by the Tribunal, the appeals are posted for hearing on a priority basis. Instructions exist for disposing of such appeals within three months.

Tribunal is making all attempts to dispose of all appeals within six months of filing.

Rubber Units

5291. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA:
SHRI D. M. PUTTE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the rubber units a raw material of strategic importance in the country are hitting behind due to the lack of foresight essential for successful planning;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Government have failed to anticipate a huge shortfall between the demand and supply of the commodity; and

(c) if so, what effective measures have been adopted by Government to bridge it?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c). It is not correct to say that there is no foresight in planning for the Rubber Industry. Besides allowing imports of natural rubber to meet the deficit between demand and supply, Government have taken up a number of schemes to step up the production of natural rubber in the country.

दिल्ली में तस्करी के माल की बिक्री

5292. श्री राम श्रवध : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि तस्करी से लाया गया विदेशी माल खुले रूप से दिल्ली के अनेक बाजारों में बेचा जा रहा है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसे रोकने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सवाई सिंह सिसोदिया): (क) सरकार को मिली