

- (iv) Helping to create a domestic market for diversified jute products like jute decoratives.

II. Export Sector :

- (i) Continuation of Cash Compensatory Support on export on almost all exportable items of jute goods.
- (ii) Formation of Consortium with S.T.C. for export of carpet backing cloth to U.S.A with 50 : 50 loss sharing arrangements.
- (iii) Grant of cash compensatory support at a higher rate to S.T.C. for effective participation by S.T.C. through a Consortium of Exporters in global tenders for hessian and sacking.
- (iv) Product developments through Research and Development.
- (v) Participation in Trade Fairs and Workshops and sponsoring of market oriented trade delegations.
- (vi) The following two Bills have been introduced in Lok Sabha on 22.4. 1983.
- (a) The Jute Manufactures Cess Bill, 1983 :-

This Bill is to provide for the levy and collection, by way of cess, of a duty of excise on jute manufactures for the purpose of carrying out measures for the development and production of jute manufactures and for matters connected therewith.

- (b) The Jute Manufactures Development Council Bill, 1983 :-

This Bill is to provide for establishment of a Council for the development of production

of jute manufactures by increasing the efficiency and productivity in the Jute Industry, financing of activities for such development and for matters connected therewith.

- (vii) Setting up of 100 per cent export-oriented units for which a number of Letters of Intent have been issued.

III. Financial Sector :

- (i) Undertaking of an in-depth study of the cost structure of jute goods by the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP) at the request of the Government.
- (ii) Setting up of a Sub-Committee by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to study viability of jute mills and to suggest a package of financial measures for the rehabilitation of potentially viable units.

Setting up of Fourth Pay Commission for Central Government Employees.

1081. SHRI AJOY BISWAS :

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government employees are opposing the setting up of 4th Pay Commission as announced by the Central Government ;

(b) what are the specific proposals of the Confederation of the Central Government Employees in this respect ; and

(c) whether Government propose to discuss with the employees' side and settle the issue immediately ?

THE MINISTR OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
PATTABHI RAMA RAO) : (a) to (c) In

the meeting of the National Council (Joint Consultative Machinery) held on 13/14th May, 1982 the Staff Side had suggested setting up of a Pay Body to look into revision of pay scales of the Central Government employees. Considering all aspects, Finance Minister in his Budget speech on 28th February, 1983 announced the Government's decision regarding setting up of a new Pay Commission to make a comprehensive enquiry into the pay, allowances and conditions of service of Central Government employees. Finance Minister had stated at that time that before the terms of reference of the New Pay Commission were finalised the representatives of the employees would be consulted. In pursuance of this discussions were held with the representatives of the Staff Side of the National Council (JCM). A statement has been made by the Finance Minister in Parliament on 26.7.83 regarding the terms of reference as well as composition of the Pay Commission.

Strategy to Speed up Tax Assessment

1082. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :-

(a) whether Government have recently worked out a more cohesive strategy to speed up tax assessment ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO) : (a) and (b) With a view to speeding up the disposal of Income-tax assessments, the Government have enlarged the scope of the Summary assessment scheme so as to include in it certain categories of assessment ; which were hitherto being treated as scrutiny assessments.

Large Processing Powerlooms

1083. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether large processing units processing powerloom cotton fabrics with the aid of machines but without the aid of

power/steam have frustrated the Notification No. 130/82 dated 23rd April, 1982 as amended by finding loopholes in the said Notification;

(b) whether it has come to their notice that nearly 24 crores of Rupees of Excise duty has been evaded by such processing units; and

(c) what steps Government intend to take to intensify the collection of Excise Duty from such large processing units and to strengthen the enforcement machinery to stop evasion of such Excise Duty in order to help the handloom industry which is facing unequal competition from the powerloom sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO) : (a) to (c) Government have received representations stating that some processors of cotton fabrics have re-arranged their operations in order to avail of the exemption contained in Notification No. 130/82-CE dt. 20.4.1982. In the circumstances, the question of evasion of any excise duty does not arise in this case.

Recommendations of Expert Committee on Small Tea Gardens

1084. SHRI CHITTA BASU :

SHRI G.Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have considered the recommendations of the expert Committee on small tea gardens under the Chairmanship of Shri Sanyal, Deputy Chairman of the Tea Board;

(b) if so, the principal recommendations thereof accepted by Government; and

(c) action taken thereon ?