

Alleged Swindling by Sahara Deposits and Investments (India) Ltd.

1137. SHRI P.M. SAYEED:

SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether depositors whose savings ran into crores, had alleged swindling by the Sahara Deposits and Investments (India) Ltd.;

(b) whether the depositors have urged the Union Government to intervene to ensure that their money is returned to them;

(c) whether the depositors have demanded a probe into the scandal involving more than Rs. 40 crores; and

(d) to what extent the charges have been found true and the action proposed to be taken ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d) A number of complaints had been received by Government as well as Reserve Bank of India regarding the Sahara Deposits and Investments (India) Ltd. Reserve Bank of India has held that the activities of the company come within the purview of the Prize Chits and Money Circulation Scheme (Banning) Act, 1978. Accordingly, they advised the Delhi Administration to take appropriate action in the matter. Delhi Administration is now seized of the matter.

Visit of an Expert Indian Study Team to Gulf Countries

1138. SHRI N.E. HORO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Expert Indian Study Team has visited some Gulf Countries regarding India's scope of export image there; and

(b) if so, the details alongwith the names of items being exported to Gulf Countries at present ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) A delegation, led by Deputy Minister, Ministry of Commerce visited Saudi Arabia and U.A.E. in June, 1983 with a view to exploring the prospects of increasing India's exports to the Gulf countries particularly meat and meat/products and live animals for food. No other official or export Indian study team has visited any Gulf country in the recent past to explore India's scope for exports.

(b) The principal items that are currently being exported to Gulf countries include tea, spices, fruits and vegetables, meat and meat products, textiles including garments, steel pipes, diesel engines, compressors, pumps, electrical and non-electrical machinery, some consumer durables, auto parts, chemicals and allied products, pharmaceuticals, etc.

Shortage of Coal for Production of Tea in Tea Gardens in North Bengal

1139. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK :

SHRI SUBODH SEN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to coal shortage production of tea in most tea gardens in North Bengal, would be hampered;

(b) whether Government are also aware that the peak harvesting season of the tea industry has already commenced; and

(c) if so, steps to be taken to make coal available to the tea gardens ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRIMATI RAM DULARY SINHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Tea Board is in touch with Coal India and the Railways to ensure adequate supply of coal to the tea industry.

Submission of Annual Reports of Assets and Liabilities by Officers of Punjab and Sind Bank

1141. SHRI MANI RAM BAGRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the officers of Punjab and Sind Bank dealing with loans and advances have submitted Annual Reports of their assets and liabilities after nationalisation of the banks ;

(b) if not the reasons therefor ;

(c) if so, whether the said returns have been scrutinised to find out their correctness ; and

(d) have Government taken or propose to take steps to ensure that the assets of such officers are not disproportionate to their known sources of income ; if not the reason therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d) In terms of clause 20 (1) of Punjab and Sind Bank Officer Employees (Conduct) Regulations 1981, every officer employees of the bank on his first appointment/promotion to a post of officer in the bank is required to submit a return of his assets and liabilities and officers who were already in service on the date these regulations came into force were required to submit the said return within 3 months of coming into force of these regulations. This return is not to be submitted every year. The bank has reported that out of total strength of of officers of 3633 as on 18-7-83, 2422 officers have already submitted the said return. The returns are being scrutinised by the Bank. The Bank is persuing with the officers who have not submitted this return so far.

If an employee of public sector bank is found to be in possession of

assets which are disproportionate to his known sources of income, he will be punishable under section 5 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1947.

दिल्ली और जयपुर में आयकर के छापों के दौरान बरामद किया गया काला धन

1142. श्री मनीराम बागड़ी : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली और जयपुर में दिनांक 20 मई, 1983 से आयकर विभाग द्वारा मारे गये छापों में अनुमानतः कुल कितना काला धन बरामद किया गया और काले धन से संबद्ध बरामद दस्तावेजों का मूल्य कितना है ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि इन छापों में भूतपूर्व मुख्य मंत्रियों, भूतपूर्व युवराजों और वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों से संबद्ध कुछ दस्तावेज भी जब्त किये गये और यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी पूर्ण ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) सरकार द्वारा इन कर-अपवंचकों के खिलाफ क्या कार्यवाही की गई या करने का विचार है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एस० बी०पी० पट्टाभि रामा राव) : (क) से (ग) आयकर विभाग ने 20 मई, 1983 से 23 जुलाई 1983 के दौरान दिल्ली और जयपुर में ली गई तलाशियों के दौरान प्रथमदृष्ट्या 42.53 लाख रु० मूल्य की लेखाबाह्य परिसंपत्तियां पकड़ी। तलाशियों के दौरान पकड़े गये कुछ जेबरात और रत्नों तथा उपरत्नों का मूल्यांकन अभी किया जाना है। इसमें श्रस्त व्यक्तियों के पूरे ब्यौरे, पकड़े गये कागजात की छानबीन पूरी हो जाने और कर-निर्धारणों के पूरे होने के पश्चात् ही जाने जा सकेंगे। विभिन्न प्रत्यक्ष कर अधिनियमों के अन्तर्गत उचित कार्यवाही करने के लिए तलाशियों के दौरान पकड़े गये अपराध-आरोगणीय की जांच की जा रही है।