

Income-Tax Due from Business Houses

1139. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total income-tax due from top-big twenty business houses of the country; and

(b) the steps being taken to recover it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA) : (a) Income-Tax demand of Rs. 47.65 crores was outstanding against top 20 large industrial houses (ranked by the size of their assets as on 31-12-81) registered under Monopolies & Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969, as on 30-9-83. Out of this, a demand of Rs. 42.67 crores was not enforceable, thus, leaving the recoverable demand of Rs. 4.98 crores.

(b) Depending upon the facts and circumstances of each case, appropriate steps are taken from time to time by the concerned Income-tax authorities for recovery/reduction of outstanding demand. These steps include inter-alia, requesting the Appellate authorities for expeditious disposal of the pending appeals and also resorting to proceedings under section 226(3) and 179 of the Income-tax Act and attachment of movable and immovable property after issuing the recovery's certificate to the Tax Recovery Officer under section 222 of the Income-tax Act.

Upgradation of Food Craft Institutes into Diploma Awarding Institutes

1140. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently upgraded any food craft institutes in the country into diploma awarding institutes;

(b) if so, how many and which of them have been so upgraded;

(c) whether the food craft institute, Kalamasserry (Kerala) has been upgraded;

(d) if not, whether Government would consider its upgradation as it is one of the best managed Food craft institutes in India; and

(e) the steps taken in the direction to upgrade this institute ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b) Six Food Craft Institutes located at Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Bhubaneswar, Lucknow and Goa to Diploma level are in the process of being upgraded.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Keeping in view the financial and technical constraints, it is not possible to upgrade the Food Craft institute, Kalamasserry to diploma level at this stage.

(e) The question does not arise.

Rise in Wholesale Price Index

1141. SHRI MANMOHAN TUDU : SHRI HARISH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the wholesale price index (1969-70) has been continuing its increasing trend over the last few months;

(b) if so, the latest trend as on 31st January;

(c) the reasons of the rise in the wholesale price index; and

(d) its impact on the consumers and unabated rise in prices ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PARNAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) The requisite information on the movement in the wholesale price

index in recent months is indicated below :

Last week of	Index	Per cent variation over previous month
September, 1983	319.3	+0.2
October, 1983	318.7	-0.2
November, 1983	318.5	-0.1
December, 1983	319.6	+0.3
January, 1984	322.0	+0.8

(c) and (d) The pressure on prices during the current financial year is attributed to the delayed effect of the 1982 drought and somewhat higher growth of liquidity relative to the growth in real income in 1982-83. The consumer price index generally follows the movement in the wholesale price index with a time lag. Accordingly, the consumer price index for December, 1983 registered a decline of 0.4 per cent over the month. The effect of price rise on consumers is sought to be contained by strengthening the public distribution system and higher releases of essential commodities at reasonable prices through fair price shops, both in urban and rural areas.

States and Private Sector to Associate in Formulation of Tourist Schemes for Seventh Plan

1142. SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to associate the States and private sector in formulating tourism schemes for Seventh Plan; and

(b) if so, the detail of the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Planning Commission has set up a Working Group on the formulation of Seventh Plan for Tourism. Member-

ship of this Working Group includes representatives from the concerned Ministries of the Government of India/ Public Sector undertakings, and the private sector including experts.

Convening of Meetings to Review the Performance of Public Sector, R&D Organisations, FCI, IDC, State Farms, etc.

1143. SHRI H.N. BAHUGUNA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have accepted the suggestion of trade union representatives to review the performance of the public sector at the meeting with the Minister of Finance in view of the heavy investments involved and in overall national interest (T.O.I. 25-1-1984);

(b) whether Government will convene a similar meeting of various interests including economists in respect of various R&D Organisations (ICAR, CSIR, ICMR, AEC, DSE, DST, etc.) as this involves annual expenditure of over Rs. 1000 crores; and

(c) whether Government will also likewise convene a meeting of representatives of Food Corporation of India, Indian Dairy Corporation, State Farms units, etc. which will help the Government know the depth and seriousness of the field problems and situations which is preventing in these units to meet fully the national needs and goals ?