

have increased but for the decline in import of foodgrains, decrease in coastal movement of coal and decline in coastal movement of mineral oils.

(c) The Port is taking various measures to provide facilities for handling increased traffic, the most important of which an oil dock to handle tankers upto 80,000 DWT to cope with anticipated increase in import of crude oil for Cochin Refineries, a separate berth for import of fertiliser raw materials and new methods of cargo handling leading to quicker turn-round of ships.

**Arrears of Income Tax and Wealth Tax Outstanding Against Coal Mining Industry**

1309. SHRI C. K. GHANDRAPAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether non-payment of Income-tax and Wealth Tax by the coal mining companies is increasing every year ;

(b) if so, the amount of Income-tax and Wealth Tax arrears against the coal mining companies in the years 1968, 1969 and 1970 with the names of companies and the amount due from each ; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government for collection of Income-tax arrears from these companies speedily ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) and (b) The wealth-tax on limited companies was abolished with effect from 1st April, 1960 and as such the question of increase in wealth-tax arrears does not arise. So far as income-tax is concerned the statistics regarding the arrears are not maintained industrywise in the Income-tax Department. This can be obtained only by a scrutiny of thousands of assessment records in some charges of Commissioners of Income-tax for the last 3 years, which will involve considerable time and labour. If, however, the Hon'ble Member desires information about any particular coal mining companies the same can be furnished.

(c) The Government has during the last three years taken the following steps for speedy

collection of arrears of taxes :—

(i) Taking over by the Income-tax Department itself of recovery work hitherto done by officials of the State Government.

The Government last year sanctioned 68 posts of Tax Recovery Officers and with these additional posts most of the recovery work has been taken over by the Income-tax Department in all the Commissioners' charges.

(ii) The Functional Distribution Scheme under which the work of collection of taxes has been made the specific function of one or more income-tax officers in the Range was introduced in 1966 and was further extended during the last year.

(iii) Acceptance of crossed cheques by the Department and opening of special receipt counters for this purpose in the Income-tax Offices.

(iv) Publication of names of assessee who are defaulters in the payment of taxes over certain prescribed limits.

(v) Arrear Clearance Fortnights are being observed all over the country. During this period, special emphasis is laid on carrying out pending adjustments/rectifications, giving effect to appellate orders and collecting the net demands due from the assessee.

(vi) Two Additional Commissioners of Income-tax (Recovery) have been posted exclusively for recovery work in each of Commissioners' Charges at Bombay and Calcutta. Similarly one Additional Commissioner of Income-tax (Recovery) has been posted in each of Commissioners' Charges at Delhi and Madras.

(vii) Sixty posts of Income-tax Officers (Collection) were last year sanctioned by the Government for attending to the work of liquidation of arrear demands.

**Income Tax due from the Directors of Sri Nimbarak Proper Kajora Coal Company, West Bengal**

1310. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the members of the Board