

(ख) यदि हां, तो कर्मचारियों की शिकायतें क्या हैं और इस संबंध में सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

रक्षा मंत्रालय (रक्षा उत्पादन) में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री विद्याचरण शुक्ल) : (क) और (ख). सितम्बर, 1969 में शिकायतों का कोई ज्ञापन पत्र प्राप्त हुआ प्रतीत नहीं होता है। यद्यपि, एक ज्ञापनपत्र दिनांक 4 अप्रैल, 1969 का, आल इंडिया ई० एम० ई० सिविलियन परसोनेल एसोसिएशन की बंगलौर शाखा, जो 515 आर्मी बेस के असैनिक कर्मचारियों का प्रतिनिधित्व करते हैं, से प्राप्त हुआ जिसमें यह आरोप लगाया गया था कि कमांडर को प्रेषित पहले के कुछ अभिवेदनों पर ध्यान नहीं दिया गया था। इसकी जांच की गई तथा एसोसिएशन ने एक लिखित अभिपुष्टि की कि उनके पहले के अभिवेदनों पर यथोचित ध्यान दिया गया।

#### Unemployment due to Closure of Companies

1778. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH : Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of companies were closed during the last two years in the country ; and

(b) if so, the number of persons rendered unemployed as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY) : (a) Five hundred and twenty three companies during 1969-70 and 472 companies during 1970-71 ceased functioning either by going into liquidation or by getting struck off under Section 560(5) of the Companies Act 1956. The number of such closures has shown a declining trend over the last several years.

(b) The information regarding the number of workers employed by companies is not required to be disclosed by them in their statutory returns filed under the Companies Act. Hence, the information is not available.

#### Supply of Cigarettes for Jawans

1779. SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain brands of cigarettes supplied to the soldiers in the military are very unpopular in the market and not consumed otherwise, such as, Number Ten and National Gold Flake ;

(b) if so, the reasons for supplying such unpopular cigarettes to our Jawans ; and

(c) whether Government would ensure that popular brands and good quality cigarettes are supplied to them ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) No, Sir. Cigarettes issued free to troops are procured out of brands a proved after user trials. They are required to confirm to the prescribed ASC Specification and are subjected to scientific inspection and analysis before acceptance.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

#### Arrears of Income-tax

1781. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total amount of tax arrears at present as compared to the tax arrears at the end of the last three financial years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K R. GANESH) : The net arrears of income-tax outstanding at the end of Financial year 1970-71 as compared to the arrears outstanding at the end of financial years 1967-68, 1968-69 and 1969-70 are given below :—

Financial years	Net arrears outstanding (In crores of rupees)
1967-68	374.52
1968-69	435.49
1969-70	507.91
1970-71	499.68