

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) and (b). The question whether any revision of export duty on manganese ore is called for was considered by the Minister of Commerce, Finance, and Steel, Mines and Metals and it has been decided not to reduce the export duty on manganese ore.

Public Undertaking

2906. **SHRI S. R. DAMANI :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 424 on the 24th August 1968 and state :

(a) the details of the demand estimates in respect of products of the 14 enterprises ?

(b) the year in which actual production and demand in respect of each enterprise tallied with the estimates ;

(c) the years in which each of the enterprises yielded profits and the percentage of profit to the relative investment, or the details of benefits accrued such as saving of foreign exchange ;

(d) the details of technical reasons like breakdowns in machinery power failures etc. in each enterprise which contributed to under-utilization of capacity and the loss accrued in each case ; and

(e) the estimated future demand for the products over the next five years and whether that would result in full utilisation of capacity and the expected return on capital invested ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) to (e) The details information asked for in the Question is being collected from the concerned enterprises and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

Deductions from Price of Opium Paid to Cultivators in Madhya Pradesh

2907. **SHRI S. S. KOTHARI :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that deductions were made by the Central Government

from the price of opium paid to cultivators in Madhya Pradesh in respect of sales tax during the years from 1966 to 1968 and Government have decided to refund the amount to the cultivators ; and

(b) if so, the steps Government are taking to expedite such refund ?

THE DEPUTY-PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) and (b). During 1968 the Narcotics Department have paid to the cultivators the net price for the opium purchased from them but have retained with them an amount equal to the purchase-tax payable to the State Government. The latter have been requested to withdraw the levy and if they do so with retrospective effect, the amount retained with the Narcotics Department could be paid to the cultivators. No deduction from the price was made during 1966 or 1967.

Increase in Acreage under Opium Cultivation

2908. **SHRI S. S. KOTHARI :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to increase the acreage under opium cultivation ;

(b) if so, by how much ; and

(c) the principles followed in allotting increased pattas (licences) for cultivation ?

THE DEPUTY-PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The area expected to be licensed for poppy cultivation during 1968-69 crop season is about 36,000 hectares as against an area of about 24,000 hectares licensed during last season.

(c) A copy of the licensing principles for 1968-69 season is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2451/68.]

बैंडिकल कालेजों में बाकिले के लिये एक समान प्रक

2909. श्री रामाबतार शर्मा : क्या स्वास्थ्य, परिवार नियोजन एवं नगर विकास मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में विभिन्न