

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) to (c) Wholesale Price Index (WPI) measures the changes in the wholesale prices of all commodities traded in the country. It does not reflect the retail price changes. There are four consumer price indices (CPI) measuring the retail price movement: (1) for Industrial Workers (2) Urban Non-Manual employees (3) Agricultural Labourers and (4) Rural Labourers. CPI(IW) is the most commonly used retail price index series.

The inflation rate based on CPI(IW) was 19.7 per cent for the month of November 1998, whereas WPI based inflation was 8.1 per cent (Average of four weeks). The increase in CPI-IW was more pronounced because food items (the main culprit for the unprecedented rise in inflation rate) have the weight of 57.5 per cent in CPI-IW as against a weight of 17.4 per cent in WPI.

#### **Income Tax Raids on Educational Institutions**

637. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of educational institutions and schools raided by the Income Tax Officials during the last year;

(b) the total amount recovered from these schools and institutions; and

(c) the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) Search and seizure operations under the Income Tax Act, 1961 were conducted in eighteen cases of Educational Institutions and other schools.

(b) Cash, jewellery and other assets aggregating to Rs. 5,17,95,304/- were seized.

(c) Investigations are in progress and the assessments of these cases are being taken up according to the provisions of Chapter XIV B of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

#### **Lifting of Sanctions**

638. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether break through has been achieved recently for lifting of multilateral sanctions against the country by International Financial Institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the International Financial Institutions which have lifted sanctions?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) to (c) At the multilateral International Financial Institutions, namely, ADB and World Bank, G-8 countries had adopted a collectivised approach to work for postponement of all loans to India meant for non-basic human needs.

Recently, however, the IFC Board approved an investment of \$35 million in favour of Integrated Coal Mining Pvt. Ltd. India on 2.2.1999. The AP Power Restructuring Loan for \$210 million was approved by the World Bank Board recently. These are the first cases of non-basic human needs projects being approved by the World Bank and its affiliates after May 1998.

The ADB Board had also approved a loan of US\$ 250 million in December 1998 for the Rajasthan Urban Infrastructure Development Project treating it as a "basic human needs project". Besides, a loan of US\$ 180 million was also successfully negotiated with the Bank for the Surat Manor Tollway project in January 1999.

*[Translation]*

#### **All India banks Hindi Conference**

639. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite repeated requests the Fourth All India Banks Hindi Conference has not been held even after elapsing many years since its third conference;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry is neglecting the use of Hindi on the pretext of using modern devices;

(d) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to encourage the use of Hindi in his department on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee Year of Official Language?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) and (b)

An All India level Official Language Conference of Banks is organised every year by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) where discussions are held on different subjects pertaining to the implementation of the Official Language Policy of the Government and resolutions are passed. Representatives from all public sector banks and financial institutions participate in this All India Conference. Therefore, it was earlier decided that an all India Conference of Banks on Official Language on the lines of the conference organised in 1988, 1990 and 1991 may not be necessary. However, in order to give an added impetus to the effective implementation of the Official Language Policy, the Ministry have requested the Indian Banks Association (IBA) to convene a National Level Official Language Conference once in three years. IBA have agreed with the proposal.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Besides making efforts to achieve the targets stipulated in the annual programme, issued by the Department of Official Language, a request has also been made to Indian Banks' Association to organise various programmes between 14th September 1999 and 13th September 2000 for taking affective measures for propagation/implementation of Official Language to mark the Golden Jubilee Year of Official Language.

[English]

#### **Requirement of Funds for Textiles Mills in Gujarat**

640. DR. VALLABH BHAI KATHIRIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total of number of NTC mills in Gujarat and the production capacity thereof;

(b) the installed production capacity of the mills;

(c) whether the installed production capacity of the mills is sufficient to meet the increasing demand of textiles;

(d) if not, the required installed capacity to meet the demand and the funds required for that purpose;

(e) whether the Government propose to invite private sector mills to achieve the required results; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the progress made in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) and (b) NTC has 11 mills located in Gujarat, with a total installed capacity of 296656 spindles, 6019 looms and processing capacity of 4.50 lakh mtrs per day.

(c) to (f) The total production of different sectors of textile industry is adequate not only for the requirements of the country but also for exports.

#### **Uttar Pradesh Export Corporation**

641. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the handloom and powerloom weavers are facing problems in Kanpur, U.P. due to rise in the prices of cotton and non-export of manufactured goods and the weavers are on the verge of starvation because Uttar Pradesh Export Corporation is not purchasing goods from the small weavers; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the State and Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) and (b) On the basis of information available from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh it is incorrect to state that weavers are on the verge of starvation because Uttar Pradesh Export Corporation is not purchasing goods from small weavers. The State Government has informed that at the beginning of every financial year the U.P. Export Corporation floats tender notices inviting Societies as well as individual weavers to attend the Purchase Committee meetings for procurement of goods to be sold through the outlets of the Corporation. Besides, individual weavers and Cooperative Societies are also motivated by the District Industries Centres to attend the Purchase Committee meeting and also sell their products through the U.P. Export Corporation.

#### **Money Laundering Scam**

642. SHRI KAMAL NATH:  
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:  
DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD:  
SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN:  
SHRI P. SANKARAN:  
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:  
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: