

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to severe balance of payments crisis in the recent past, it has become necessary to conserve foreign exchange through a series of measures which imposed some difficulties on those undertakings which are dependent on foreign exchange availability for their operations. The restriction on the total imports through import compression measures, recourse to suppliers' credit or commercial loans; and availing of institutional lines of credits contributed to difficulties in terms of the level and cost of operations of such undertakings.

(c) The difficulties being faced by public sector undertakings and other users of foreign exchange are sought to be removed by a series of steps, mainly in terms of improving the level of foreign exchange reserves in the short-run and bringing about a reduction in the current account deficit in the balance of payment in the medium term.

[English]

Private buses plying under DTC and STA Permits

2486. **SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA :** Will the Minister of **SURFACE TRANSPORT** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of private buses plying under D.T.C. and S.T.A. permits in Delhi found to have removed seats from the buses and the action taken against the owners of erring vehicles and to ensure the non-recurrence thereof in future;

(b) the number of buses whose seats have gone hard over the time and have not been replaced with cushioned and comfortable seat and the action taken to ensure the replacement of all hard seats with cushioned seats;

(c) the number of buses in which glass panes and handle bars are missing and the steps taken to ensure the putting in of handle bars and glass panes for the comfort and safety of commuters;

(d) whether the general cleanliness and maintenance of the buses are far from satisfactory; and

(e) if so, the action taken to improve the general get up of the buses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) As per survey carried out, of the 629 P.O. buses under DTC on 1-8-1991, 107 P.O. buses were found to have removed seats, 45 buses were having hard seats and 303 buses were having glass panes and handle bars missing.

D.T.C. have issued show cause notices to the owners of defaulting private buses with a view to removing the deficiencies.

Delhi Admn. have informed that their mobile enforcement team have cancelled the certificate of fitness of 331 private buses during the period 1-1-91 to 30-6-91.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

220 Taxation
Evasion of Corporate Tax

2487. **SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA :** Will the Minister of **FINANCE** be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Corporate giants do not pay corporate tax' appearing in the Indian Express of June 19, 1991;

(b) if so, the particulars of the companies which have evaded the payment of corporate tax;

(c) the amount of corporate tax evaded by each of these companies and since when; and

(d) the action taken to recover all the dues from them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) Yes, Sir. However, the news item has not correctly reported the statements made by the Chief Commissioner of Income tax, Madras. Further, the contribution of the private sector companies to the total corporation tax revenues is quite significant and a number of large companies in the private sector pay substantial tax.

(b) to (d) In view of the reply of part (a), question does not arise.

221 *Chemicals*
Import of Paraxylene, PTA and DMT under OGL

2488. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to bring import of paraxylene, PTA and DMT under Open General Licence (OGL) to check the monopoly of big business houses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of other such items on which big business houses have the monopoly and the steps taken to bring all such item under the OGL; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d) Paraxylene is already under OGL. PTA and DMT are in the Limited Permissible List and can be imported against REP Licences/Exim Scripts. However, review of Import-Export Policy is continuous process and necessary corrective measures are taken, as and when the situation so warrants, after taking into consideration all the relevant factors and keeping in view the needs of the economy. The changes in the policy, as and when made, are notified in the Gazette of India.

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Setting up of District level offices of NABARD

2489. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the places where the NABARD has set up district level offices in the country; State-wise;

(b) the objectives to be achieved through these district level offices;

(c) whether there is any proposal to open more district level offices of NABARD in the current year; and

(d) if so, the names of such districts state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) By the end of March, 1991 the National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) has set up 114 District Offices. The State-wise details of District Offices is given in the attached statement I.

(b) The District Offices of NABARD will co-ordinate the agricultural and rural development activities of various rural credit agencies and keep liaison with concerned District Development Departments of the State Governments.

(c) and (d) NABARD has reported that during the current year 1991-92 it proposed to set up 80 to 85 more District Offices. Remaining Districts in the country will be covered in subsequent years in a phased manner. A tentative list of the District Offices (State-wise) identified so far to be opened during 1991-92 is set out in the attached statement II.

Statement I

Name of the State	Name of the District
Gujarat	1. Kutchh (Bhuj) 2. Junagarh 3. Sabarkantha 4. Bharuch 5. Surendranagar