GOVERNMENT OF INDIA FINANCE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3669 ANSWERED ON:25.08.2006 RAIDS ON LIQUOR MANUFACTURERS . Ponnuswamy Shri E.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a)Whether the Department of Income-tax/Excise had conducted raids in Uttar Pradesh Distilleries Association Offices in Delhi and Lucknow;
- (b) If so, whether documents containing names of certain high profile persons alleging receipt of huge payments from the Association were recovered;
- (c) If so, the details thereof; and
- (d) The action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM)

- (a): In February, 2006, the Income Tax Department had carried out a search & seizure operation in respect of certain persons engaged in liquor distillery business. As a part of this operation, a survey was carried out at the office premise of Uttar Pradesh Distilleries Association (UPDA) in Delhi.
- (b) & (c): The documents seized/impounded during the course of search & seizure operation indicate that certain payments had been made by members of the UPDA. These payments amount to Rs.246 crore (approximately) from April 2002 till the date of search. However, the names of persons to whom these payments have been made are in a coded form.
- (d): An investigation report on the search & seizure operation has been prepared and sent to the jurisdictional Income-tax authorities for finalization of the assessment proceedings. The report has also been forwarded to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) for appropriate action at their end.