

NISIET, Hyderabad, in collaboration with International agencies during 1997-98. However, a Research Project on Policy Research for Small Scale Enterprises was conducted during 1997-98.

(b) The above research project was assigned by UNESCO, New Delhi for an amount of US \$ 10,000/-.

(c) The details of project currently going on are:-

(i) Study tour on Food & Agro Processing Rural Development for the ILO delegation from Nigeria during 29th March-4th April, 1998 for an institutional fee of US \$ 4200+Rs.58,000/- arranged by ILO, New Delhi (ILO Office for India and Bhutan).

(ii) Training cum enterprise visit of seven members team of Bankers and officials from Bangladesh during 8-20 June, 1998 sponsored by International Fertilizer Development Centre, Dhaka, Bangladesh for a fee of US \$ 10,500.

#### Massive I.T. Evasion by School

2513. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether searches conducted recently by the Income Tax Department have revealed massive Income Tax evasion by some of the schools in Western Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the income tax evasion that have come to the light the amount involved and the modus operandi thereof;

(c) whether in some cases some non-resident Indians are also involved;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measure taken or proposed to be taken to deter the defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE & INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARATHANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Searches were conducted recently at the premises of a school in Western Uttar Pradesh.

(b) Concealment of Rs.4 crores has so far been admitted by a Director of the School. Further investigations are underway for quantifying the exact amount of concealment and establishing the modus operandi involved.

(c) and (d) An N.R.I. is the Chairman of the Society running the school.

(e) The Income-tax Act, 1961 provides for a special procedure for assessment of search cases. The procedure involves making of assessment for a block period of ten assessment years preceding the year of search and assessing the undisclosed income relating to the block period at sixty per cent. Further prosecution proceedings could be initiated in the circumstances prescribed in the Act.

#### Sick Tea Gardens of Assam

2514. SHRI NEPAL CHANDRA DAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that some tea estates of Assam has fallen sick;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise;

(c) whether crores of rupees of the poor workers in the form of gratuity and daily wages are blocked in these tea estates;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to pay the arrears to the workers;

(e) whether the Government propose to revamp these tea estates while selling or leasing of the gardens to any solvent private concern;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the other steps taken by the Government for recovery of the Tea Estate from present sickness?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) to (g) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

#### Land Acquired by ECL

2515. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land acquired by the Eastern Coalfield Ltd. (E.C.L.) after nationalisation of the coal industry;

(b) the number of families displaced as a result thereof;

(c) the criteria adopted to provide compensation and jobs to such families; and

(d) the number of families compensated so far indicating the amount of compensation paid to each family?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) After nationalisation of the Coal Industry, the total area of land acquired by Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) covering various types of lands works out to 9976.73 hectares.

(b) 996 families have been displaced as a result of acquisition of land by ECL.

(c) For providing compensation and jobs to project affected families, CIL's R&R policy and Govt. of India package called "Gullia Package" approved in October, 1990 are being followed.

(d) As reported by Coal India Limited, all the families i.e. 996 have been paid compensation amounting to an average sum of Rs. 1.07 lakhs per family.

[English]

#### Tobacco Crop

2516. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has urged not to relax the restrictions in regard to the cultivation of tobacco crop;

(b) if so, whether the Tobacco Board and other members had made requests to lift the present restrictions on the crop; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### World Bank Assistance to IDBI

2517. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has received funds from the World Bank for phasing out of Ozone Depletion Substances (ODS);

(b) if so, the total funds received by IDBI from World Bank for the purpose; and

(c) the time by which the Ozone Depletion Substances are likely to be phased out?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) Yes.

(b) IDBI manages the grant disbursement on behalf of the World Bank, the Administrator of Ozone Trust Fund under the Montreal Protocol. Till March 31, 1998, IDBI had received US \$ 8,604,926 for further disbursement to enterprises.

(c) The Ozone Depletion Substances are to be phased out by 2010 in a phased manner, as per the time schedule specified in the Montreal Protocol.

[Translation]

#### Abid Hussain Committee

2518. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the nature and the extent of measures taken by the Government on the recommendations of the Abid Hussain Committee;

(b) the steps taken on the recommendations to protect the interests of the small and medium industries;

(c) whether the Government have informed the State Governments to implement the recommendations of the Committee in their States;

(d) whether the Government is reconsidering the recommendations which have not been accepted; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHR: SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) and (b) Abid Hussain Committee on Small Enterprises submitted its report in January 1997. Based on the recommendations of the Committee the following measures were taken by the Government.

1. The Investment limit for the small scale industrial units was raised from Rs. 60 lakhs (Rs. 75 lakhs for the ancillary units) to Rs.300 lakhs.
2. The investment limit of the tiny units was raised from Rs.5 lakhs to Rs.25 lakhs.
3. Forty per cent of the funds available to SSI sector was earmarked for units having investment in plant and machinery upto Rs. 5 lakhs, 20% for units with investment between Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 25 lakhs and the remaining 40% for other SSI units.
4. The composite loan scheme of SIDBI was modified and loan ceiling increased from Rs.50,000/- to Rs. 2 lakhs.

Government had also set up an Inter-Ministerial Committee to examine the various recommendations of the Abid Hussain Committee. Based on the report of the Inter-Ministerial Committee Government has taken decisions on various other issues for which action has been initiated by the Department.

Action has been initiated on those recommendations of the Committee which were thought to be in the interest of not only the small scale sector but also the entire economy and accepted by the Government.