THE MINISTER OF COM-MERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) to (d) A revised draft proposal is under consideration by the Government of India in consultation with the Government of Kerala.

Insurance Scheme of Autonomous Bodies Employees

1567. SHRI S. KRISHNA-KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government of Kerala has requested Union Government to amend the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956 to enable it to carry out insurance scheme among the employees of statutory boards, corporations, co-operative societies, etc; and
- (b) if so, the decision of Union Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER THE MINISTRY OF FINAN IN FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) (b) The Government of Kerala requested Government of India to extend the scope of its two Schemes viz. Family Benefit Scheme. 1977 and Kerala State Employees Group Insurance Scheme, 1984 so as to cover the employees of Boards, Corporations. Private Schools/Colleges. As per the provisions of LIC 1956 independent any insurance scheme for the employees of local bodies, who are not Government servants, cannot be instituted outside the purview of Life Insurance Corporation of India. Accordingly, the Kerala Government's above quest could not be acceded to.

[Translation]

Export of Tea

1568. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARASTE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of tea exported during 1989-90 and the amount of

foreign exchange earned therefrom; and

(b) the target fixed for its export for 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF COM-MERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) The estimated level of quantum of export of tea during 1989-90 was 202.81 M. Kgs. and the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom was estimated at Rs. 862.45 crores.

(b) For export of tea during 1990-91, a target of 230 M. Kgs. has been kept.

Import of Edible Oil

1569. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARASTE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to import edible oil using the earnings from export of milk powder; and
 - (b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to export 30,000 tonnes of milk powder linked to import of edible oil of equal value.

[English]

Security of Income-tax Officials During Raids

1570. SHRI D. M. PUTTE GOWDA:

SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT:

SHRI M. V. CHANDRA SHEKARA MURTHY:

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether assistance of Central Reserve Police Force is being sought

for the security of Income Tax officials during raids;

- (b) if so, whether a number of incidents of assault on raiding tax officials have been noticed recently during the current year;
- (c) if so, the details and facts thereof:
- (d) whether Government have also issued instructions/guidelines to State Governments to establish special courts to deal with offenders;
 - (e) if so the details in this regard;
- (f) the number of cases of economic offences pending in each court (State-wise) as on 30 June, 1990;
- (g) whether the Union Government have provided any help to the State Governments to set up such courts in their respective states; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof and further steps taken by Government to dispose of such cases?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) and (c) During the calendar year 1990, one incident of assault on income-tax officials participating in search operations at Bairagad near Bhopal has been reported.
- (d) to (h) The establishment of special courts comes within the purview of State Governments. The Central Government has been requesting the various State Governments to establish special courts for dealing with the cases of offences under the Direct Tax Laws.

Such special courts have already been established at Hyderabad, Muzaffarpur, Delhi, Bangalore, Indore, Ernakulam, Cuttack, Jaipur, Madras, Madurai, Allahabad, Kanpur and Ahmedabad.

Efforts are being made to establish more special courts for dealing with cases of offences under the Direct

Tax Laws at other places also so that these cases are disposed of expeditiously.

No separate statistics is being maintained with regard to court-wise pendency of proceedings relating to economic offences. However, it is reported that 35981 proceedings relating to offences under the Direct Tax Laws are pending in various courts throughout the country as on 30-6-90.

Consignment Tax

- 1571. SHRI D. M. PUTTE GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of States which are charging consignment tax for products sold in other States and the percentage of taxation:
- (b) the major products attracting consignment tax and whether there is additional sales tax charged at the selling point causing double taxation;
 - (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Union Government propose to consult all the State Governments to bring uniformity in the consignment tax all over the country; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Consignment tax is not being levied in the country.

(b) to (e) Do not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

Lease by Trade Fair Authority of India

- 1572. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COM-MERCE be pleased to state:
- (a) the terms and conditions on which Trade Fair Authority of India