

Increase in Price of Sugar

*669. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of sugar was increased by about Rs. 90/- per quintal during the month of March, 1986;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the trend still continues ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) to (c). The wholesale sugar prices as on 28.2.1986 in important markets were ranging from Rs. 611-640 per quintal. The prices increased to the range of Rs. 630.00 to Rs. 686.00 per quintal as on 14.3.1986, showing an increase of Rs. 19.00 to Rs. 46.00 per quintal as compared to the prices prevailing as on 28.2.1986.

THE prices of sugar in open market fluctuate from time to time due to variety of factors and despite availability being adequate to meet the demand, the prices at times go up due to seasonal requirement, future market expectations, etc. The increase in prices was for a very short period and there was a significant decline in prices from the 3rd week of march, 1986. Due to larger releases of free sale sugar for April, 1986, which were effective for delivery from 21.3.1986, the prices have declined to the range of Rs. 627.00 to Rs. 649.00 per quintal as on 4-4-1986.

[*Translation*]

Assessment of Assets of Acharya Rajneesh for Income-Tax Purposes

*670. SHRI KUNWAR RAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any assessment has been made of the assets of Acharya Rajneesh and the Indian and foreign organisations

connected with him for purposes of income-tax and other taxes,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount outstanding against him and the amount outstanding for more than five years; and

(d) the steps taken to realise it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Acharya Rajneesh is not assessed to income-tax/wealth-tax in his individual capacity. The Trust named as "Rajneesh Foundation" is assessed to income-tax and wealth-tax. The company named as "Rajneesh Foundation Ltd." is assessed to Income-tax.

(b) the details of Income-tax and Wealth-tax assessments of the trust "Rajneesh Foundation" are as under :—

Assessment Year	Total income assessed	Net wealth assessed
	Rs.	Rs.
1970-71	—	1,11,856
1971-72	Nil	1,37,209
1972-73	Nil	4,82,519
1973-74	Nil	5,65,600
1974-75	Nil	6,70,514
1975-76	4,57,494	16,90,356
1976-77	26,51,590	35,13,012
1977-78	44,33,250	56,66,260
1978-79	55,88,220	99,43,042
1979-80	78,48,860	1,85,53,730
1980-81	1,14,80,330	2,77,60,600
1981-82	2,14,95,760	4,10,00,400
1982-83	(—)1,52,82,129(Loss)	Not assessed

The details of the Income-tax assessments of the company "Rajneesh Foundation Ltd." are as under :—

Assessment Year	Income/Loss assessed
	Rs.
1980-81	(—) 88,520
1981-82	(+) 1,74,470 (Reduced to Rs. 51,060/- on appeal and rectification).
1982-83	1,46,968

(c) Total amount outstanding against :

(i) The Trust "Rajneesh Foundation :

(1) Income-tax—Rs. 3,56,41,992

(2) Wealth-tax—Rs. 33,60,868

(ii) Rajneesh Foundation Ltd. Rs. 2,33,911 (Income-tax)

The amount outstanding for more than 5 years against.

(a) The Trust "Rajneesh Foundation" :

(i) Income-tax. Rs. 21,77,905/-

(ii) Wealth-tax. Nil.

(b) Rajneesh Foundation Ltd. Nil.

(d) In order to recover the outstanding amounts, the movables including the bank accounts and rents receivable were attached. The immovable properties of the Rajneesh Foundation Trust have also been attached. These steps resulted in the recovery of Rs. 35,66,862/ upto 31-3-1986.

[English]

Reopening of Anglo-French Textiles Mills, Pondicherry

*671. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA. : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Anglo-French Textile Mills in Pondicherry has been reopened and started working;

(b) if so, since when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). One section of the Anglo-French Textile Mills, Pondicherry, namely 'Canvas Mill' has been re-opened on 17.3.1986 and has started working. The Ponnicherry Textile Corporation Ltd. is carrying out cleaning/maintenance operations in respect of the other sections of the mill.

(c) Does not arise.

Smuggling from Across Pakistan Border

*672. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be Pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that an unabated smuggling of narcotics, gold and silver is continuing from across the Pakistan border causing an adverse effect on the country's economy and peoples' health;

(b) whether the question of having greater areas of border under direct surveillance and fencing has been finalised.

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any scheme has been introduced to adequately reward the Sleuths who apprehend such smugglings;

(e) if so, the number of persons who have been rewarded during the last three years indicating the total quantity (with value) of goods seized; and

(f) further steps being considered to deal with this menace ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Reports