

the appraisal of Third Telecommunications Project visited India in January-February 1969;

(b) On the basis of the appraisal, World Bank Group agreed to give foreign exchange assistance of 55 million, equivalent to Rs. 41.25 crores (contributed equally by the World Bank and its affiliate the International Development Association) for the Telecommunications Project in India. Agreements for this assistance were signed on 18th June, 1969.

(c) The World Bank Group's assistance will meet the foreign exchange cost of direct imports by the P & T Department for three years (1969-70 to 1971-72) and of imported raw materials and components, required by indigenous factories manufacturing telecommunication equipment, for two years (1969-70 and 1970-71).

#### Demands of Central Excise Officers

\*316. SHRIMATI ILA PALCHOU-DHURI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that all the Central Excise Officers posted in Delhi and elsewhere in India had refused to accept their salaries on the 1st August, 1969, in protest of introduction of some scheme known as "Self Removal Procedure" and in support of some demands put by them to the Government and which had not been acceded to;

(b) if so, the details about this matter including the number of Excise Officers involved in the refusal to accept their salaries; and

(c) the steps taken to arrive at a settlement with these officers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : (a) No Sir. But about 4000 Central Excise Non-gazetted Executive Officers posted in Delhi and some other Collectorates (out of a total strength of 20,000) did not accept their salaries on 1st August, 1969.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the

Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-2157/69.*]

#### Scheme to Check Tax Evasion

\*317. SHRI K. HALDER ;  
SHRI B. K. MODAK ;  
SHRI GANESH GHOSH ;  
SHRI BHAGABAN DAS :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Central Government to check tax evasion during the last three years;

(b) the concrete results of the steps taken so far;

(c) whether Government have drawn up a new scheme in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in library. See No. LT-2142/69.*]

(c) and (d). The problem of tax evasion and measures to combat it are constantly engaging the attention of the Government. The report of the departmental Committee appointed for looking into the problem of tax evasion is under the consideration of the Government for further action.

#### Major and Medium Irrigation Projects In Maharashtra

\*318. SHRI DEORAO PATIL : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of projects, in terms of cost, sanctioned for Maharashtra and in the country during the last three years ;

(b) the acres of land which will be irrigated by these projects in Maharashtra ; and

(c) the acres of land actually irrigated at present by Major and medium projects in Maharashtra ?