

ter and taxi fares have been raised by 25 per cent so as to take into account, not only the higher incidence of petrol cost but also increases in other operating costs since the fares were revised some years ago. As regards bus fares, the Delhi Transport Corporation has not made any change after the Budget.

Some clarification is necessary in respect of the statement made by the Finance Ministry that the price level would rise by only 1 per cent as a result of the Budget proposals. The figure of 1 per cent refers to the likely direct impact of excise duties on the Wholesale Price Index (1970-71-100). It does not allow for changes in import duties (in particular the customs duty on edible oils) or the indirect effects of increased prices of, for example, petroleum products.

In the overall there is no reason to believe that the estimate made by the Finance Ministry is unrealistic. As already pointed out above, however, the actual degree of change in prices is governed by a variety of factors including seasonal ones, or even those arising from developments abroad.

In so far as retail prices are concerned, there is a vast number of markets, varieties of goods, etc., which renders it extremely difficult to make any meaningful assessment of the behaviour of consumer prices. One has necessarily to depend upon such indices as are available. The most common indicator presently in use is the All India Industrial Workers' Consumer Price Index (1960-100) which is available upto January 1979 only. The Index for March, 1979, which is expected to reflect part of the changes resulting from the 1979-80 Budget proposals, will be available only by the middle of May, 1979. It is, however, not expected that the Index for March 1979 will be appreciably higher than that for February.

### **Time Bound Survey by Income Tax Department**

\*656. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) whether any systematic and time-bound survey is being conducted by the Income-tax Department;

(b) how many new assesseees have been brought on books of the Department during the years 1976, 1977 and 1978 as a result of such surveys and the revenue realised therefrom;

(c) whether Government are going to set up Special Survey Squads on a permanent footing to detect new assesseees who are evading tax;

(d) what is the sanctioned and working strength of Inspectors exclusively for Survey work in each Commissioner's Charge;

(e) whether Government consider the actual working strength of Inspectors for Survey work sufficient; and

(f) if not, what are the specific steps Government propose to take to sanction additional posts of Inspectors for completing time-bound programme of survey work in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIKARULLAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As a result of these surveys notices to 70,566, 63,656 and 43,152 new Income-tax assesseees have been issued during the years 1976-77, 1977-78 and 1978-79 (upto 31-1-1979) respectively. During these periods Income-tax demand of Rs 5.02 crores, Rs. 6.34 crores and Rs. 2.62 crores respectively was raised in the Income-tax assessments com-

pleted in the survey cases. The corresponding figures of Wealth-tax are 2644, 2315 and 2699 assesseees and Rs. 13.53 lakhs, Rs. 14.91 lakhs and Rs. 27.24 lakhs Wealth Tax demand raised respectively.

(c) The survey to detect new assesseees who are evading taxes is a continuous process and is constantly under review.

(d) The sanctioned and working strength of Inspectors exclusively for survey work in each Commissioner's charge is not readily available. However, the total sanctioned strength of Inspectors in the Income-tax Department is 3549. The number of Inspectors deployed on survey work fluctuates depending upon the exigencies of situation.

(e) and (f). Having regard to the country's growing economy and other factors a proposal for sanction of additional posts of Inspectors for survey work is under consideration of the Government.

#### With-holding of Increment of Government Servants on Leaves

6201. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a representation from one social worker Shri Pranjpe from Bombay, dated 19th September, 1978 with regard to withholding of increment of Government servant while he or she is on leave;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action have Government taken on the said representation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLAH): (a) Efforts made to locate such a representation have not succeeded.

(d) and (c). Do not arise.

#### रिज़र्व बैंक आफ इंडिया द्वारा पुराने और कटे-फटे नोटों का बदला जाना

6202. श्री दया राम शाक्य : क्या उप प्रधान मंत्री तथा वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या रिज़र्व बैंक आफ इंडिया, नई दिल्ली में पुराने और कटे-फटे नोट बदलने के लिये केवल एक काउंटर है और वहां पर नोट बदलवाने के इच्छुक कर्मचारियों तथा अन्य व्यक्तियों की हर समय लम्बी पंक्ति होती है और प्रत्येक व्यक्ति को नोट बदलवाने के लिये कम से कम एक घंटा लगता है क्योंकि अधिकांशतः बैंक कर्मचारी उन व्यक्तियों के नोट बदलते हैं जो उसी बैंक के कर्मचारी होने का बहाना ले कर पंक्ति में खड़े नहीं होते ;

(ख) क्या सरकार नोट बदलने का व्यवसा करने वाले उन व्यक्तियों के नोट बदलना बन्द करेगी जो कटे-फटे नोटों के पुरे थैले भर कर घूमते हैं और बैंक कर्मचारियों को कमीशन दे कर बिना पंक्ति में खड़े हुए नोट बदलवा लेते हैं जब कि अन्य लोग पंक्ति में खड़े प्रतीक्षा करते रहते हैं ; और

(ग) क्या सरकार उपरोक्त अनियमितताओं को दूर करने के लिये कोई कदम उठायेगी और भविष्य में कटे-फटे नोटों को शीघ्र बदलने के लिये व्यवस्था करेगी और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री ज़ुल्फिकारुल्लाह) : (क) मैंने कुचैले