

648 pieces of information were verified by (Central Information Branch) the Income Tax Department, and thereafter passed on to the concerned assessing officers for appropriate action. As a result, 78,118 new assesseees were added and 17,853 number of cases of tax evasion were detected.

(d) and (e). On the basis of prima facie evidence, proceedings have been initiated against 28 persons either under the CCS (CCA) Rules, 1965 or the prevention of corruption Act.

[English]

Gold Exchange

1938. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the world Gold council has mooted the establishments of gold exchanges on the lines of various stock exchanges in the country;

(b) if so, the main objections of the exchange; and

(c) the locations where these centres are likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House, as soon as it is available.

Subsidy on Wheat

1939. SHRI. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Processing Ministry has urged Finance Ministry to extend the Rs. 100/- a quintal subsidy on wheat to all bread units in private sector instead of confining it to the Public Sector Modern Food Industries;

(b) whether any representation has been received from the all India Bread Manufacturers Association in this regard; and

(c) if so, the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. BEDI PROSAD PAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Supply of wheat to private sector bread manufacturers at a highly subsidised price was considered impracticable in view of huge losses that would have been incurred by the Food Corporation India. However, the bread manufactures bakeries continue to have access to wheat under the open market sales conducted by the Food Corporation of India.

Pending Cases for Export Obligation

1940. DR. K.D. JESWANI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 8394 dated June 2, 1995 as well as a new-item appearing in the Indian Express dated November 19, 1995 under captioned "75 pending cases of Advance Licences get clearance" and state:

(a) the latest position regarding 57 cases of export default pending adjudication for the last few years;

(b) the names of other 123 export defaulters also alongwith amount still outstanding against each;

(c) whether any export defaulters in the past under reference has been given advance licence for exports out of 75 licences mentioned in the above new-item; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government to cancel the advance licences for exports given to export defaulters under reference now and in future till these exporters fulfil their all export obligations in full?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Adjuication Proceedings are being expedited.

(b) The names of these 123 export defaulters were given in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1426 dated 17.8.90 and Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4569 dated 5.5.95. Information regarding the amount still outstanding against each of these firms is being collected.

(c) and (d). Of the 75 cases considered at the Open House in Calcutta on 13.11.95, 50 have been cleared for grant of licences subject to certain conditions. None of these cases pertained to the defaulters mentioned in paras (a) and (b) above.