

1978 with the average annual index numbers for 1976-77 and 1977-78 is presented in Statement II laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library See No. LT-2434/78.]

**Evasion of Income Tax by Messrs Ansal Group**

914. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) are Government aware of the fact that M/s. Ansal Group, New Delhi, have evaded Income Tax of more than two crores ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken against this Group?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLAH) : (a) Complaints alleging substantial evasion of tax by the Ansal Group have been received.

(b) The above complaints allege evasion of tax on a number of counts, e.g., suppression of income, debiting of bogus expenses, introduction of unaccounted money in books of account as cash credits, utilization of unaccounted money in house hold expenses etc.

Search and seizure operations were conducted at the various premises of this Group, which resulted in seizure of some assets and a large number of books of accounts and documents. Requisite orders under Section 132(5) of the Income-tax Act were duly passed.

As a result of investigations already made, a number of assessments in various parts of the Group have been re-opened. Assessments in the cases of Shri Chiranji Lal and his three sons have been completed for the assessment year 1973-74 making substantial additions to the income returned. Penalty proceedings for concealment of income have been initiated.

**Loan taken from Banks by People Residing in Cannanore District in Kerala**

915. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any step to meet the grievances of poor coffee cultivators residing in Thondernad Belamunda and Thavinjal Panchayat of North Wynod Taluk of Cannanore district Kerala who took loan from Bank and as per their advice planted 3274

seedlings which started gradually deteriorating inflicting great loss to the cultivators ;

(b) whether in view of this poor growth of 3274 coffee plants, the coffee cultivators have requested Government to wipe off the loan ; and

(c) if so, reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H.M. PATEL) : (a) to (c). Government have not received any complaint in this regard. However, instructions issued by Government and guidelines on agricultural financing issued by the Reserve Bank of India, allow easy and appropriate phasing of recovery of loans by commercial banks in case crops are affected on account of natural calamities or adverse seasonal factors.

**Talks on Bhoothalingam Committee Report on Wages, Income and Prices**

916. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : SHRI F.P. GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to have talks with the States, Public Sector Undertakings and Organisations of Labour and Employees on the Report of Bhoothalingam Committee on wages, income and prices ;

(b) if so, details therein ;

(c) whether any steps have been taken in this regard ; and

(d) if so, decision taken thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H.M. PATEL) : (a) to (d). The Report is under examination. The Government will consult the concerned interests before taking final decisions on the Report.

**Import of Edible Oil**

917. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIC SUPPLY AND COOPERATION be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of import of edible oil at present for consumption within the country ;