

(b) the action taken by the authorities against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Raids by Income Tax Enforcement Directorate**

4352. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHA-DASAN NADAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Offices of firms at Madras and Bombay, and other places which were raided by the Income Tax and Enforcement Directorate during the 1980-81 periods;

(b) the details thereof;

(c) whether cases have been registered and arrests made in this connection; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) to (d). The Income Tax Department conducted 3339 searches at Madras, Bombay and other places in India during the period from 1-4-1980 to 28-2-1981, as a result of which, *prima-facie* unaccounted assets to the approximate extent of Rs. 17.07 crores were seized for appropriate action in accordance with Income Tax Act and other Direct Taxes enactments. Under the Income-tax Act, there are no provisions for arrests during the course of the search.

During the period from 1-1-1980 to 28-2-1981, the Enforcement Directorate conducted 1749 searches at Madras, Bombay and other places in India, resulting in seizure of Indian Currency amounting to Rs. 40.07 lakhs and foreign exchange equivalent to Rs. 37.62 lakhs approximately, apart from incriminating documents.

During the period 1-1-1980 to 28-2-1981, the Enforcement Directorate arrested 87 persons under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act.

The number of searches being very large, the time and labour that will be involved in collecting and compiling separate and detailed information regarding the firms etc. will be disproportionately high. If the Hon'ble Member specifies the particulars of the firm(s), the information will be collected and furnished.

#### **Restrictions on Export of Pomfrets**

4353. SHRI V. N. GADGIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have put restriction on export of pomfrets on the size and quota;

(b) whether as a result of this untimely restrictions the country has lost crores of rupees in foreign exchange; and

(c) whether Government propose to remove these restrictions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The export of white pomfrets of sizes less than 300 grams is not allowed. Export of white pomfrets of sizes 300 grams and above but less than 500 grams is subject to quota restrictions. The export of white pomfrets of sizes 500 grams and above is allowed on OGL basis.

(b) and (c). The restrictions have not had any adverse effect on our foreign exchange earnings. During calendar year 1980, 4137 tonnes of pomfrets valued at Rs. 611 lakhs were exported as compared to 2194 tonnes valued at Rs. 327 lakhs in 1979. The policy regarding export of pomfrets has been liberalised recently.