

Statement

The names of the Corporations/Societies/Other Autonomous Authorities brought within the purview of the Central Administrative Tribunal under Section 14 (2) of the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985

Sl. No. Name of the Corporation/
Society/other authority

1.	Central Board of Trustees constituted under the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952.	Statutory Body
2.	Employees' State Insurance Corporation	Corporation
3.	Central Board for Workers, Education	Registered Society
4.	National Labour Institute	Registered Society
5.	National Council of Safety in Mines, Dhanbad.	Registered Society
6.	Council of Scientific and Industrial Research	Society
7.	Central Social Welfare Board	An authority controlled by Government
8.	Indian Council of Agricultural Research	A Society controlled by the Government
9.	Sports Authority of India	A Society controlled by the Government

[Translation]

Call Letters to Unemployed Persons

4953. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons who have got themselves registered in the Daryaganj employment exchange for clerical cadre during 1990, 1991, year-wise.

(b) whether not even a single person belonging to scheduled caste has been sent call-letter for employment by the above exchange so far since their registration;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether irregularities are being committed where issuing call-letters for the clerical cadre by the above office; and

(e) if so, the number of complaints received by the Government in this regard and action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (e) information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Import of Teakwood

4954. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Teakwood can now be freely imported from Myanmar through Road route along Manipur boundary;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The Border tree Agreement between India and Myanmar does not cover import of teakwood through the Moreh Land Customs Station on the Manipur-Myanmar border. The Myanmar Government also does not permit export of teakwood. Hence, licit import of teakwood is not permissible through the said route.

Article 371

4955. SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Government of Sikkim has requested the Union Government not to extend direct central taxes in deference to Article 371 F of the Constitution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Government of Sikkim has requested the Central Government to defer the implementation of the direct tax laws in the state of Sikkim. The Chief Minister had written a letter dated 2nd July, 1996 to the Prime Minister of India in this matter. The Ministry of Finance is of the view that the direct tax laws have been validly extended to the state and their implementation will be beneficial to the people and the state of Sikkim.

Funds for PF by IDBI

4956. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India has sought funds from Provident funds, etc;

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that it mobilises funds from Provident Funds under certificate of deposits, fixed deposits and bonds in accordance with the guidelines on deployment of Provi-

dent Funds, issued by the Government. As per extant guidelines, recognised Provident Funds, approved Superannuation Funds and approved Gratuity Funds are permitted to invest upto 40% of their investible moneys in the bonds and securities issued, *inter alia*, by a Public Financial Institution as defined under Section 4A of the Companies Act, 1956.

Proposal to Merge all relevant Acts

4957. SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to merge all relevant Acts relating to the functioning and regulation of Public Sector Banks into one Comprehensive Act; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Following suggestions to have a comprehensive legislation to cover nationalised banks, State Bank of India and the associate banks of State Bank of India, or more uniformity in the provisions of the statutes governing them, a committee consisting of representatives from Reserve Bank of India and some public sector banks has been constituted by the Reserve Bank of India to review the statutes and suggest changes in their provisions. The Committee has been advised to draw up a time schedule for expeditious completion of the assignment.

[Translation]

Letters From MPs

4958. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of complaints received by the Income Tax Commissioners from the Members of Parliament in regard to the tax evasion during the last three years;

(b) whether any action has been taken on these complaints;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and by when, the suitable action is likely to be taken on the complaints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) A large number of complaints relating to evasion of Income Tax are received by the Income-tax Department from the Members of Parliament. The number of such complaints received in the Central Board of Direct Taxes are 40 in 1996, 45 in 1995 and 63 in 1994.

(b) to (d) All complaints from the Hon'ble Members of Parliament are treated as VIP references. These are accorded top most priority. Close coordination is maintained with the field authorities to ensure that necessary enquiries are completed and appropriate actions under the Income-tax Act are taken at the earliest.

[English]

Fraud in Canara Bank

4959. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether an officer of the Canara Bank siphoned off Rs. 3.18 crore by writing fictitious entries in books;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said officer has since been arrested and if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether some other officials of the Bank have also been found involved in this fraud; and

(f) if so, the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (f) Canara Bank has reported that a fraud involving Rs. 3.18 crores was perpetrated by an officer of the Batala branch of the bank by making fictitious entries in the banker's account.

The bank has lodged a complaint with the Central Bureau of Investigation and a case has been registered on 10.9.1996. However, the officer has not been arrested so far and his whereabouts are not known. The investigation conducted by the bank does not reveal complicity of other officials of the bank. However, the bank has initiated necessary departmental action against the concerned officials for negligence/lapses in the performance of their duties.

Recovery of Loan

4960. SHRI CHANDRABHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up an advisory committee headed by a retired High Court Judge to devise ways and means of recovering the sticky loans;

(b) the number of individuals to whom the Indian Bank extended loans of various nature during the last three years;

(c) the total amount involved in the said loans and the details of repayment of loans by the said individuals;

(d) the number of individuals for whom the bank has written off the loans;

(e) whether the Government have allowed the merger of the Bank of Thanjavur with Indian Bank; and

(f) if so, the reasons for such merger?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) No such committee has been set up by the Government. However, Indian Bank has set up a Settlement Advisory Committee with a retired judge of the Chennai High Court and retired senior banker and serving General Managers in charge of recovery as members to look into the compromise proposals and advise the board of the bank in the matter.