

Taxation Proposals of Union Territories

*956. **Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that all the taxation proposals of the Union Territories and all legislations have first to be scrutinised by his Ministry or the Central Government in the first instance,

(b) if so whether the proposal for equalization of the sales tax, property-tax professional-tax which were either not existent or different in old Himachal Pradesh as compared to the merging areas of Punjab has been received,

(c) if so the decision of the Central Government thereon, and

(d) when this proposal was received from the Himachal Pradesh Government?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): (a) No Sir, not in all cases

(b) to (d) In the areas transferred to Himachal Pradesh a professions tax is levied and foreign liquor is subject to sales tax at 10 per cent. No such tax is levied in other areas of that Union territory. In May, 1967 the Himachal Pradesh Government proposed the abolition of the professions tax on the ground that Punjab has decided to abolish the tax. In June, 1967 they proposed the abolition of sales tax on foreign liquor on the ground that Haryana Government has abolished the tax. The Himachal Pradesh Government have been requested to furnish copy of the Punjab law abolishing the professions tax and Haryana Government's orders abolishing the sales tax on foreign liquor to enable the Government to examine the proposals. These are awaited. No other proposal has been received for equalizing the taxes in the transferred areas and the rest of the Union territory.

Study Group for Handloom Industry

*957. **Shri A. B. Vajpayee:**

Shri M. S. Murti:

Shri Umanath:

Shri A. K. Gopalan:

Shri Chintamani Panigrahi.

Shrimati Suseela Gopalan:

Will the Minister of Labour and Rehabilitation be pleased to state

(a) whether the report of the Study Group appointed by his Ministry to examine the feasibility of appointing a Wage Board for the Handloom Industry has been received, and

(b) if so the main recommendations made in the report and the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Labour and Rehabilitation (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Two views have been expressed in the Report. One view is that the organised private sector of the industry as well as the industrial co-operative handloom societies and the master weavers' establishments working on the lines of the factory establishments may be covered by the existing Central Wage Board for Cotton Textile Industry for purposes of wage fixation. The other view is that the present economy of the handloom industry should not be disturbed by a wage revision on an all-India basis and that the question might be tackled on a State basis by the concerned State Governments.

The report is under Government's examination.

Cable Rates

*958. **Shri Jyotirmoy Basu:**

Shri P. Gopalan:

Shri Sradhakar Sengupta:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are