

Scheme is more than 66,640 and the number of declarations accepted is 59,438.

(b) Under the Scheme, Rs. 739.24 crores was received in relation to direct tax enactments, and Rs. 621.20 crores in relation to indirect tax enactments.

(c) No, Sir. The Scheme was simple and voluntary. Hence, it is not a fact that the scheme could not achieve the desired success because of its complaxity.

#### **Reduction in excise duty on yarn**

704. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would come forward to reduce the excise duty on yarn from the prevailing effective rate of 9.2 percent to avoid further closure of yarn mills in Textile Industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal to reduce the rate of excise duty payable on cotton yarn.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Closure of yarn mills in Textiles Industry (if any) may not be attributable only to rate of duty on yarn. However, the available information shows that there has been an increase in the production of yarn as well as marginal decline in its average price.

#### **UNDP assistance for National Programmes**

705. SHRI RAMACHANDRAIAH RUMANDLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United Nations Development Project has decided to grant assistance to support four national programmes of the development sector;