

(iv) Problems of administration: Making administration more efficient and at the same time more humane and more aware of the broader aspects of taxation. Changes in administrative structure, facilities, emoluments, selection procedures at the higher levels, punishments and rewards.

(v) Revenue Audit—its role—the attitude of audit and the problems created for the assessee—lines of reform.

The committee's recommendations on VAT, personnel and administration, procedures, etc. pertaining to CBEC and CBDT are under examination.

In view of the large-scale changes in Central Excise and Customs duty structure, there was very little room for major changes in the direct taxes. Most of the recommendations of the Committee on Corporate Tax reforms and other related matters have, therefore, been postponed to next year.

The recommendation of the Chelliah Committee for the raising of the exemption limit for Gift Tax from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 30,000 has been accepted and implemented.

Part-II of the Report gives the Committee's final recommendations on the changes to be effected in the duty structure relating to specific groups of industries and the time period within which changes should be brought about. It deals also with the restructuring of excise duties and review of exemption notification in the import tariff.

Following the broad thrust of the Chelliah Committee's recommendations, significant reduction in customs duties as well as rationalisation and simplification of excise duties have been effected as is reflected in the Finance Bill, 1993.

Both Part I and Part II of the final report have been published and copies have been placed in the Library of Parliament.

Electricity distribution in Delhi by Private Agencies

*105. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal is under consideration to hand-over distribution of electricity in Delhi to private concerns;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether it has been decided to handover distribution of power in East Delhi to the Modis;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government are aware of the opposition to this scheme from the consumers and also the DESU employees; and

(f) if so, the details in this regard and also the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE): (a) and (b) A Task Force set up by the Government has recommended the introduction of private sector in power generation, transmission and distribution in Delhi, excluding New Delhi Municipal Committee and Cantonment areas. The Task Force has also recommended that the proposals for secondary transmission and distribution system may be invited from private companies through Competitive Bidding, on the basis of specified parameters.

(c) and (d) Government has not taken any decision to handover distribution of power in East Delhi to Modis.

(e) and (f) While the DESU Karamchari Union has lodged a protest against the move for privatisation of power distribution in Delhi, there is no report of opposition from the Consumers in this regard. Government will take care of the various aspects, including interests of the DESU employees before taking any decision in the matter.