

(b) whether it is also a fact that the works were suspended after investing huge sums of money towards modernisation programme;

(c) whether the reasons for such suspension of works have been ascertained; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and what further action is being taken to complete the job of modernisation and what is the estimated cost thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Recovery proceedings against Chairman, Indian Express Group of newspapers

1017. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2442 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16th March, 1989 and state:

(a) whether the appeal against the balance demand of Rs. 26,82,164 from the Chairman, Indian Express Group of newspapers has been disposed of;

(b) if so, whether the recovery has been made; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, what are the reasons for such undue delay?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) The demand of Rs. 26,82,164 referred to in the question was not due from the Chairman, Indian Express Group of newspapers but was due from Indian Express Newspapers (Bombay) Pvt.

Ltd. Appeals against this demand have not yet been disposed of.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Cases filed by Government in the High Courts and the Supreme Court

1018. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the remark of the Chief Justice of Supreme Court, while opening a new block of Andhra Pradesh High Court in Hyderabad recently to the effect that the State is the largest litigant in the country;

(b) if so, what is the number of cases pending in various High Courts and the Supreme Court as on 30th April, 1990 which have been filed by the Central Governments, State Governments and other similar authorities; and

(c) what are the details of corrective measures Government propose to take to ensure that common man is not dragged to courts for settling dues?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) It is the policy of the Government not to drag the common man to the Court unnecessarily.

Recovery of various tax dues stayed by court orders

1019. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of money which Government have to recover from industrialists and businessmen by way of excise duty, income tax and other taxes but which have been stayed by court orders as on 30th April, 1990; and

(b) what steps Government are taking for the speedy recovery of such dues?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) The amounts of Central Excise, Customs and Income tax which have been stayed by various courts in the country as on 31.12.1989 are as under;

(Rs. in crores)

Central Excise	305.31
Customs	943.23
Income-tax including coop. Tax	171.34

(b) Appropriate administrative, legal and other steps as considered necessary are being taken. Efforts are being made to get the cases listed for early hearings and stays against the recovery vacated.

Appointment of judges

1020. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has recommended appointment of men of unimpeachable integrity and proven merit as judges of High Courts and the Supreme Court;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the remark of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in Hyderabad in the third week of April, 1990 that this recommendation has not yet been acted upon; and

(c) if so, what are the details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to implement this recommendation?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) The Government have seen the speech delivered by the Chief Justice of India in April, 1990 at Hyderabad. He observed:

"One obvious remedy that has been repeatedly recommended but not acted upon in right earnest: cutting down delay in making appointments of Judges to the superior courts, increasing their strength to on a realistic assessment of workload and appointing men of unimpeachable integrity and proven merit. While we have been able to increase the strength of Judges to a certain extent, we are yet to act on the other to limbs of the recommendation".

(c) The Government have decided to set up a high-level Judicial Commission for the appointment of Judges in the High Courts and the Supreme court.

Approval of small scale units for the setting up of 100 per cent Export Oriented Units outside Export Processing Zones

1021. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the Unstarred Question 3018 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th August, 1989 and state:

(a) what are the names of the 'sensitive items' having high domestic premium which have been totally excluded for domestic sales by 100 per cent Export Oriented Units;

(b) whether small scale units other than 'sensitive items' are approved under 100 per cent EOU scheme outside Export Processing Zones, due to non-availability of adequate space/land/shed in such Zones and if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, what are the reasons for discrimination to small scale sector when small scale reserve items are in good demand in foreign countries and a very good source of foreign exchange earning?