

evading excise duty by manufacturing cigarettes in Mizoram without licence;

(b) if so, what is the amount of excise duty evaded by GTC during the last two years; and

(c) what steps have been taken to recover the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (c) The information to the extent possible is being collected from the field formations and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Number of Animals in Wildlife Sanctuaries

1310. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there had been an increase or decrease in the number of animals in the wildlife sanctuaries during the year 1987;

(b) what are the names of those sanctuaries where there had been a decrease in the number of animals and what were the reasons therefore; and

(c) whether Government propose to increase the penalties and punishments for the poachers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Available figures indicate an increase in the number of animals in wildlife sanctuaries.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

#### Setting up of industries in the Soviet Union by Private Sector

1311. SHRI HASHIM RAZA ALLAHABADI ABDI:

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great scope for the setting up of industries by Indian Private sector in the Soviet Union; if so what are the details in this regard;

(b) whether Government have approved any project with Indo-Soviet collaboration; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) to (c) Consequent on changes made in the Soviet Rules and Regulations permitting the setting up of joint ventures in the Territory of the USSR, good opportunities exist for Indian Enterprises—Both in the private and public sectors—to set up joint ventures in the USSR for mutual benefit. Already the Government have approved India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC), a public sector undertaking to participate in a joint venture restaurant in Moscow in cooperation with the city council of Moscow. The equity share of ITDC is Rs. 24 lakhs and the restaurant has started functioning from July, 1987 onwards.

A number of private sector firms and some public sector firms are presently examining the feasibility of setting up joint ventures in the USSR in fields such as soft drinks, leather, textiles, chemicals and dye-stuffs, wood pulp paper etc.

#### Resource Mobilisation Programme

1312. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to direct the profit earning companies, both in the private and public sector having larger turnover, to offer one-fourth of their share capital to the employees and the public as part of the resource mobilisation programme; and

(b) if so, by when the same will be implemented by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Restrictions on foreign travels by Members of Parliament

1313. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have imposed new restrictions on foreign travels by Members of Parliament or on their accepting of invitations for such travels from any foreign source; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) No new restrictions have been imposed. However, in order to mitigate the chances of violations of the provisions of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 by the Honourable Members of Parliament etc. they have been recently apprised of their obligations under the said Act and of the procedure for obtaining prior permission for acceptance of foreign hospitality during their visits abroad.

#### Posting of Officers of CTS in Trade Missions abroad

1314. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the C.T.S. Rules provide for posting of officers of CTS in our Trade Missions abroad;

(b) whether it is also a fact that no CTS officer has been posted to our Trade Missions abroad till date;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the officers posted in our Trade Missions

abroad are paid their salary from the budgetary allocations of the Ministry of Commerce;

(d) whether the aforesaid Trade Missions are manned by Officers of Indian Foreign Service;

(e) if so, the reasons for not posting the officers of CTS to these Trade Missions;

(f) whether Government propose to refer the case of CTS to the High powered Committee set up by it under the Chairmanship of the Cabinet Secretary for ending the discrimination; and

(g) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) No, Sir. However, the CTS Rules provide that CTS Officers are liable to serve anywhere in India or outside.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Ministry of Commerce is providing budgetary allocations only to the extent of commercial posts in the Indian Trade Missions abroad.

(d) and (e) The Trade Missions abroad are mostly manned by Officers of the Indian Foreign Service. The Central Trade Service is a newly formulated service and the first batch of direct recruits joined the service only in 1986. As the service grows in age, suitable officers may then be available who could be considered for postings in Trade Missions abroad.

(f) and (g) No, Sir. However, the Ministry has recently initiated a cadre review of the CTS.

#### Devolution of Central assistance to the States

1315. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the States share in the total devolution made by various Finance Commissions had been