

Negotiations with the LIC class I Officers' Federation

*38. SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the light of withdrawal of the case filed by the L.I.C. class I Officers' Federation in the Supreme Court, Government propose to settle all issues concerning Class I Officers including pay revision, release of withheld allowances, etc. immediately; and

(b) whether it is a fact that withdrawal of the case by officers was made a precondition for negotiations with them; if so, whether Government propose to call their representatives for discussion within a period of two months as promised?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (b) Government have welcomed the decision of the Class I Officers Federation of L.I.C. to withdraw their case from the Supreme Court as a pre-condition to release of *ad-hoc* dearness allowance with effect from 1st May, 1983 and 1st October, 1983. Discussions for revision of the pay scales etc. will be conducted by the L.I.C. Management with the Class I Officers as with other Class III and Class IV employees of L.I.C.

Excise duty and other taxes held up by large companies

*39. SHRI CHATURANAN MISH-MISHRA
SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large companies very often go to courts to hold up payment of excise duty and other taxes;

(b) if so, what is the total amount of such taxes at present held up pending courts' decision; and

(c) whether Government have any proposal to charge interest on the held up amount of taxes after a decision is taken by the courts in favour of Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. M. KRISHNA): (a) Many large companies have gone to courts to hold up payments of excise duty and other taxes.

(b) The total amount of customs duty held up to court cases is about Rs. 260 crores. As regards the amount of excise duty locked up in litigation in various court cases, it is not possible to quantify the same as the amounts in such cases involve judicial determination of issues like valuation, classification and interpretation of notifications etc. However, the total amount of arrears of Central Excise revenue as on 31-3-84 is approximately Rs. 460 crores. The requisite information about total amount of Corporation Tax pending court decisions is not readily available. However, the total amount of arrears due to stay orders by courts was Rs. 61.69 crores.

(c) No Sir.

Black money

*40. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISH-

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to an estimate the quantum of black money in the country now ranges as high as half of the declared GNP;

(b) whether Government have any special cell to estimate it, and if so, what is Government's estimate about black money; and