

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR):

(a) Partner country participation by India in the Hanovar Fair '84 has been a success in as much as it has been instrumental in correcting the image about industrialization of India. This is likely to lead to expanded trade between India and FRG, in particular and between India and other countries in general. During the Fair, orders amounting to Rs. 20 crores were received and several trade negotiations are at various stages of finalisation which expectedly will result in further business of Rs. 30 crores.

(b) The Chairman, Trade Fair Authority of India made this remark in the context of the present situation of trade between India and the countries in the West whereby we export raw materials and traditional items and import machinery and technical know-how. It appears from the Press Report that he also stated that developed countries should also start buying more of manufacture goods rather than raw materials as at present.

Deduction of Income-tax from the Salaries of Indian Staff in Foreign Diplomatic Missions

1161. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many foreign diplomatic missions are deducting income-tax from the salaries of their Indian employees and depositing with the Income-tax authorities;

(b) whether Government have compiled a list of Indian employees of foreign missions for assessing them for recovery of income-tax; and

(c) if not, what measures have been taken by Government to ensure that such employees are assessed to Income-tax?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. M. KRISHNA): (a) Foreign diplomatic missions are not obliged under the Income-tax Act, 1961, to deduct tax at source from salaries paid to their Indian employees.

(b) Government have received lists in respect of 26 foreign missions in India very recently, which are being scrutinised. Attempts are being made to obtain such lists from the remaining foreign missions.

(c) in view of (b) above, question does not arise.

Income-tax payees in the country

1162. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total number of income-tax payees in the country as on the 31st March, 1984; and

(b) what was their number as on the 31st March, 1980, 1981, 1982 and 1983?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. M. KRISHNA): (a) and (b) The total number of assesseees in the books of the department as on 31-3-1980, 31-3-1981, 31-3-1982, 31.3.1983 and 31.7.1983 is as under:—

Date	No. of income-tax assesseees
31-3-1980	41.76 lakhs
31-3-1981	45.94 lakhs
31-3-1982	46.61 lakhs
31-3-1983	47.97 lakhs
7-1983	48.92 lakhs

Information as o 31-3-1984 is not yet available.