

Recommendation of CBEC

*70. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) has recommended an overhaul of the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Act, 2005 saying that it has detected gross violations of duty and tax concessions causing it to suffer a revenue loss of Rs. 1,75,000 crore till date; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

Sanitary facilities provided for IAY houses

*71. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether out of 16,55,985 houses constructed under Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) in Andhra Pradesh since inception of the Scheme, only 8,20,743 sanitary latrines have been provided whereas the norm is to have one sanitary latrine for each house;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) to what extent the fund from 2006-07 under Total Sanitary Campaign (TSC) helped in constructing sanitary latrines in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) how many sanitary latrines have been constructed since 2006-07 in Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) what efforts Government is making to provide one sanitary latrine to each of such house?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI C.P. JOSHI): (a) and (b) As per the latest information furnished by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, out of 20.85 lakh houses constructed under IAY in the State since inception in 1985-86, sanitary latrines have been provided in 13.96 lakh houses. Due to traditional and cultural attitudes, many rural households are reluctant to construct a sanitary latrine along with the house.

(c) and (d) As per the IAY guidelines, a beneficiary who constructs a sanitary latrine along with the house, receives additional assistance under Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) in addition to the IAY funds made available to him. Since 2006-07, 3.57 lakh sanitary latrines have been constructed along with IAY houses in Andhra Pradesh.

(e) The beneficiaries are persuaded and motivated to take up construction of sanitary latrines simultaneously along with the construction of houses. IEC activities are also taken up to create awareness among beneficiaries and to bring about attitudinal changes.