

steel have refused to clear their consignments from ports due to "arbitrary" hike in import duty; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO): (a) Some consignments of Alloy Steel (electrical resistance wire) imported at Bombay port, have not been cleared by the importers who are unwilling to pay the duty at the rate applicable to Stainless Steel wire specifically covered under heading 73.15 (a) of the Customs Tariff. The rates of duty were fixed by an Act of Parliament, namely, The Customs Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1982:

(b) Government does not inter-ven in quasi-judicial proceedings. However, some representations for reduction in the rate of import duty on Stainless steel wires and wire-roads, which have been received are under examination.

Income Tax Assessment

1360. SHRI R. R. MORARKA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of regular Income-tax assessments and reopened assessments which became time barred during the last three years, year-wise ;

(b) the amount of revenue involved in them ;

(c) whether any action is taken against the persons responsible for such lapses; and

(d) if so, what are the steps taken to prevent such lapses in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO): (a) to (c) During the last three years, in the financial year 1980-81, only

one assessment has been reported to have become time barred, inadvertently, resulting in a loss of revenue of Rs. 1,500 only.

(d) Instructions have been issued from time to time to the field officers that time barring assessments be completed well in time. The disposal of assessments, including time barring assessments, is also monitored through the yearly Action Plans.

Recruitment and promotion in Public Sector Undertakings

1361. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any circular or guidelines have been issued to the various Public Sector Undertakings for recruitment and promotion of Officers under them ;

(b) whether it has come to Government's notice that in some undertakings the practice of promoting persons prospectively is prevalent ;

(c) whether this practice of promoting persons prospectively is within the framework of the guidelines issued to the various undertakings; and

(d) what action Government propose to take against those undertakings who promote persons prospectively ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO): (a) to (d) Government has indicated certain broad policy parameters to the Public Enterprises which are to be kept in view by them while formulating recruitment and promotion rules for their employees including officers and executives. Detailed rules are evolved by the enterprises themselves under the directions of their Board of Directors as per the powers vested in them by virtue of provisions of Articles of Association/statutes. Since

the authority to promote is vested in the management of the enterprises, the management are not required to consult the Government.

Foreign exchange sanctioned for Hotels in Delhi

1362. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR:

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state the amount of foreign exchange sanctioned for (i) Pure Drinks ; (ii) Park Hotel; and (iii) Bharat Hotels which are under construction in Delhi along with the details of the items to be imported ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN) : The amount of foreign exchange sanctioned for (i) Pure Drinks, (ii) Park Hotel; and (iii) Bharat Hotels is as follows :

	Rs. in Crores
Meridian Hotel (Pure Drinks)	12.00
Park Hotel	4.35
Bharat Hotel	8.00

The items to be imported are capital goods such as kitchen equipment, health club equipment, electronic equipment etc. and provisions.

Misappropriation of Soiled Currency Notes

1363. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI ARVIND GANESH
KULKARNI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any instances of misappropriation of soiled currency notes have come to Government's notice; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) There have been very few instances of shortages in soiled currency notes from the currency chests of Banks/ vaults of Reserve Bank of India. In such cases, the concerned authorities have been taking criminal and departmental action against the involved employees, besides taking further preventive steps. The Government have also advised the Reserve Bank of India and the public sector banks to tighten the administrative arrangements and ensure strict observance of instructions on the subject with a view to preventing such losses.

Raids on premises of Scientific Instruments Co. Ltd., Allahabad

1364. SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether follow up action has been taken against the management of the Scientific Instruments Co. Ltd., Allahabad whose business premises were raided for violation of Foreign Exchange Act, Customs Act, Income Tax Act and Central Excise Act; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO):

(a) and (b) The Income-tax Department searched the business premises of M/s. Scientific Instruments Co. Ltd., Allahabad and the residence of its Managing Director on 10th November, 1981. The searches resulted in the seizure of prima facie unaccounted assets of the value of Rs. 97,000 approximately.

The premises of the said Company, residential premises of its Managing Director at Allahabad