

(d) Public Sector Undertakings are treated at par with the Private Sector Undertakings in enforcement of Central Excise law and they are equally liable to punishment for contravention of the Central Excise law. Instructions have also been issued to Public Sector Undertakings for resorting to Central Excise departmental channel for resolving disputes concerning Central Excise matters. They have been asked to promptly pay the duty etc. adjudged by the Central Excise quasi-judicial authorities. Periodical meetings between the representatives of the Public Sector Undertakings and the Central Excise Officers are also held, if necessary.

Cheating of Singapore branch of an Indian Bank

186. SHRI J. K. JAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an incident of cheating of the Singapore branch of an Indian nationalised bank has come to Government's notice;

(b) if so, what is the amount involved; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) to (c) Indian Overseas Bank has reported that its Singapore branch has paid two cheques, one for Singapore \$650 000 and another for Singapore \$1.60 000 in March 1979 in clearing, to Bank of China, Singapore. The cheques were purported to have been signed by the Manager of M/s Jumabhoy and Sons(P) Ltd. The account holder however, contended, later on, that these were forged. A police complaint has already been lodged by M/s Jumabhoy and Sons (P) Ltd. and the police investigations are still going on. According to the information available with Indian Overseas Bank the culprit has not so far been traced.

Production of controlled cloth

187. SHRI J. K. JAIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the contribution of the private sector in the field of production of controlled cloth during the year 1979-80, vis-a-vis that of the public sector;

(b) what efforts are being made to increase the production of controlled cloth in view of heavy demand; and

(c) whether there is any scheme to change the price structure of controlled cloth?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Under the existing policy, mainly NTC mills are to undertake production of controlled cloth. Whatever residual quantity is not being produced by them, is allotted to private sector textile mills. During 1979-80, total production of controlled cloth was of the order of 337.204 million sq. metres, of which NTC's share was 251 070 million sq. metres and the share of the private sector mills was 86.134 million sq. metres.

(b) and (c) Various aspects of the scheme of controlled cloth including quantum of production and changes in the price structure of controlled cloth are currently under examination.

Deposits of Nationalised Banks

188. SHRI DHARAMCHAND JAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the region-wise details of the deposits of the Nationalised Banks as on 31st December, 1979;

(b) whether it is a fact that the deposits have declined considerably; if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to promote savings and mobilise other forms of deposits?