

20(a) of the said Act. Information in respect of two cases viz; M/s. Kay Distillery Industries Limited and M/s. Sarda Latham Business Machines Ltd. in the Tata House is not readily available.

No large Industrial House of the name of "Hinduja" is registered under section 26 of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969. However, gross Income-tax arrears in 3 cases assessed in the charge of the Commissioner of Income-tax (Central) Bombay, said to belong to a group known as "Hinduja" amounted to Rs. 18465.

(b) Depending upon the facts and circumstances of each case, suitable steps are being taken from time to time by the Income-tax authorities concerned for recovery of tax arrears in accordance with the provisions of the Income-tax Act, 1961.

Indo-Soviet Trade Agreement

513. SHRI GHOUSE MOHIUDDIN SHEIKH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indo-Soviet trade agreement has been signed in New Delhi in December 1978; and

(b) if so, what are the main features of the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Export Duty on Tea

514. SHRI GHOUSE MOHIUDDIN SHEIKH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal is under Government's consideration for the abolition of export duty on loose tea; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): (a) and (b) Export duty on tea has been abolished with effect from 14th February, 1979 vide notification No. 34-Customs dated 14-2-1979.

Import of Rubber

515. SHRI GHOUSE MOHIUDDIN SHEIKH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rubber manufacturing Association has urged the Union Government to expedite further import of Rubber; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government had authorised an additional import of 15,000 tonnes of rubber by STC in December, 1978. The STC is contracting purchases in this regard and the first consignment is expected shortly.

516. [Transferred to the 5th March, 1979.]

Alleged smuggling of diamonds by Vice-Consul of West Germany

517. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA PANT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Vice-Consul of West Germany at Abu Dhabi, Mr. Schwarz Jurgen Heinz was arrested on the 27th January, 1979 at Bombay Airport for allegedly smuggled diamonds worth Rupees 10 lakhs into the country;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and