

(c) to (e) Government keep a close watch on the type and level of perquisites allowed to executives of Public Enterprises, and take suitable action to regulate the same, wherever necessary. The remuneration and perquisites, like accommodation, conveyance, etc. of managerial personnel in public sector enterprises are already lower as compared to those drawn by their counter-parts in major private sector companies. Government has recently issued revised administrative guidelines lowering the ceilings of remuneration of managerial personnel of Public Limited Companies and Private Limited Companies, which are subsidiaries of Public Limited Companies. These guidelines are intended to narrow the disparities in the managerial remuneration in the public and private sector.

Disposal of Gold seized in Jaipur Palaces

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

(a) whether any portion of the gold seized in the Jaipur Palaces was disposed of by Government;

(b) if so, what is the quantity of gold disposed of and at what price; and

(c) what is the name of the agency through which the gold was sold?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Government did not dispose of any portion of the gold seized in Jaipur Palaces.

The gold confiscated under Gold (Control) Act was released to the erstwhile ruling family of Jaipur on 6-2-1978 on payment of the fine in lieu of confiscation and penalty imposed under the adjudication orders passed under the Gold (Control) Act.

Under an agreed scheme for payment of outstanding direct taxes, 884.25 kgs. (approximately) of gold

were sold through the Punjab National Bank, Jaipur for a sum of Rs. 5,71,25,172.00 in March, 1978 by the erstwhile ruling family.

Interest Relief to the Central Public Sector Enterprises

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

(a) the total amount of interest relief given to each public sector enterprise under the Central Government during the last three years; and

(b) the duration for which such relief is given and the justification for giving such relief?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Increase in Tax Arrears

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the arrears of Corporation tax, income tax, interest and penalty crossed over Rs. 1,000 crores at the end of 1977;

(b) the reasons for such large increase in the arrears of tax collection;

(c) what steps Government have taken so far for checking this tendency; and

(d) what permanent measures Government propose to take to tackle this problem effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLA): (a) The gross and net arrears of Income-tax (including Corporation-tax) at the end of 1977 were as under:—

Gross arrears ..	Rs. 1004.01 crores
Net arrears ..	Rs. 720.62 crores

(b) The phenomenon of tax arrears is a continuing one. Even though the