

the files in question are available or not and if available, to allow his representative to inspect the records.

To this a reply was sent by the Commissioner of Income-tax on 19th July, 1978 reiterating that inspection of the I. T. records of an assessee by any other person is not permissible under the Income-tax Act, and that as regards furnishing information u/s 138(1)(b) of the I. T. Act, if an application in the prescribed form is made, appropriate action will be taken.

This Ministry has no information about the other allegations contained in this report.

Export of Iron Ore

*192. SHRI GIAN CHAND TOTU:
SHRI DHARAMCHAND
JAIN:
SHRI SITARAM KESRI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed for iron ore exports for 1977-78 and 1978-79;

(b) whether these targets have been achieved;

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor and what is the extent of shortfall; and

(d) what steps Government are taking to attain the targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The target for export of iron ore during 1977-78 and 1978-79 are

as under:—

(Quantity : Million Tonnes)		
	1977-78	1978-79
1. M.M.T.C.	14.30	13.20
2. Goan Exporters	10.00	10.00
TOTAL	24.30	23.20

(b) The actual exports of iron ore during 1977-78 were 21.42 million tonnes (12.38 million tonnes by M.M.T.C. and 9.04 million tonnes by Goan Exporters).

(c) The shortfall of 2.88 million tonnes in the 1977-78 target was due to heavy inventories with the major foreign buyers of iron ore as a result of continued severe recession in the world steel industry.

(d) Efforts to locate new markets for diversification of iron ore exports are being made to attain the targets and they have yielded some success.

Loans by the Nationalised Banks to Artisans and Weaker sections of the Society

*193. SHRI L. R. NAIK:
SHRI S. W. DHABE:
SHRI SATCHIDANANDA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the Differential Rate of Interest Scheme, nationalised banks are now expected to lend a minimum of 1/2 per cent of the total advances to artisans and other weaker sections of the society;

(b) whether it is a fact that the nationalised banks have been treating this minimum of ½ per cent as the maximum;

(c) whether this attitude has come in the way of supplying adequate credit to artisans and other weaker sections of the society whose credit requirements work out into large sums defeating the very objective of

ameliorating their economic conditions; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to issue any directive to the nationalised banks to lend at least 2 per cent of their advances to the weaker sections of the society under the Differential Rate of Interest Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) According to the latest available data, the outstanding advances of the public sector banks under the Differential Rate of Interest Scheme as at the end of March '78 stood at Rs. 71.69 crores which works out to 0.58 per cent of their aggregate advances as at the end of the previous year.

(d) No, Sir.

राज्यों में अफीम की खेती

* 194. श्री कृष्णराव नारायण धुलप :
श्री देवराव पाटिल :
श्री श्याम लाल यादव :
श्री खुरशीद आलम खान :
श्री हरिसिंह भगुबावा महिडा :

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) किन-किन राज्यों ने केन्द्रीय सरकार से अनुरोध किया है कि उन्हें अफीम की खेती करने की अनुमति दी जाये;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार ने उच्च पर्वतीय क्षेत्रों में अफीम की खेती करने पर प्रतिबन्ध लगा दिये हैं और उन क्षेत्रों के किसान अफीम की खेती करने की अनुमति के लिए अनुरोध कर रहे हैं; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने इस विषय में क्या निर्णय किया है?

†[Poppy cultivation in States

*194. SHRI KRISHNARAO NARAYAN DHULAP:
SHRI DEORAO PATIL:
SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV:
SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN:
SHRI HARISINH BHAGU BAVA MAHIDA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the States which have urged upon the Central Government to permit them to undertake poppy cultivation;

(b) whether it is a fact that Central Government have imposed restrictions on cultivation of poppy in the hilly areas at high altitudes and the farmers of the areas have been asking for permission to start poppy cultivation; and

(c) if so, what decision Government have taken in the matter?]

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सतीश अग्रवाल) : (क) हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार से अनुरोध प्राप्त हुआ था कि वर्ष 1977-78 की फसल में उन्हें प्रयोग के तौर पर 5 हेक्टर रकबे में पोस्त की खेती करने की अनुमति दी जाये।

(ख) और (ग) जी हां। अफीम की फसल महत्वपूर्ण फसल होने से, इसकी काशन पर प्रभावी नियंत्रण रखना जरूरी है। सरकार की नीति यह है कि पोस्त अर्थात् अफीम की खेती की अनुमति ऐसे ही अत्यन्त उपजाऊ क्षेत्रों के लिए दी जाय जो परस्पर जुड़े हुए और पास-पास हों तथा जिन पर ठीक से नियंत्रण रखा जा सके। चूंकि पहाड़ी इलाकों में ये बातें पूरी तरह नहीं पाई जातीं, इसलिए भारत सरकार इन क्षेत्रों में पोस्त की खेती करने की अनुमति नहीं देती। फिर भी वर्ष 1977-78 की फसल में थोड़े क्षेत्र में प्रयोग के तौर पर पोस्त

†[] English translation.