

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE): (a) The revised ceiling laws have been enacted in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh and an ordinance amending the ceiling law in force has been promulgated in Rajasthan. Besides, the ceiling laws of Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal as operative from before the issue of the national guidelines broadly conform to these guidelines.

(b) Information is being collected from the State Governments.

UNDERINVOICING OF CARGO SHIPMENT

87. SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE:

SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI:

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lack of proper communication between the Port and the Customs authority help much in underinvoicing cargo-transportation.

(b) whether any study to assess the above fault has been made in respect of any major port of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what steps Government have taken to stop such lack of coordination?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

TRANSPORT TAX

88. SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE:
DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given any thought to introduce uniform transport tax all over the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and if not, by when uniformity in transport tax is expected to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI M. B. RANA):

(a) and (b). Taxation on motor vehicles is in the State field. The taxes on motor vehicles, passengers and goods carried in such vehicles are levied under the relevant Taxation Acts of the respective States. The rates of these taxes are not uniform at present. The question of rationalisation of imposition of collection of taxes as well as reduction in the existing levels of taxation on motor transport has been considered by the Transport Development Council. The general feeling in the Council was that it would be difficult for the State Governments to reduce taxation, in view of the need to raise resources for developmental activities. It was therefore, agreed that, as a first step, there should be no upward changes in the existing levels of taxation on motor vehicles. This recommendation has been brought to the notice of the State Governments.

There is also no uniformity, at present, in regard to the agencies for the collection of taxes on motor vehicles and method of payment etc. In pursuance of a recommendation made by the Transport Development Council in August, 1971, the Government of India have appointed a Working Group to go into the question of simplification of procedures for the levy and collection of various taxes on motor vehicles, avoidance of multiplicity of agencies and rationalisation the prevailing tax structure generally. The report of this group is not yet ready.

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE TO C.G.H.S. DOCTORS

89. SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to