Demand of old records by Service Tax Divisions in Delhi

- *399. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that various Divisions of Commissioner of Service Tax in Delhi have issued letters to service-tax payers demanding to submit total gross amount received and total service-tax paid etc., for the last four years;
- (b) if so, the reasons for seeking such information when tax payers are filing their returns;
 - (c) whether seeking such details is harassment to service-tax payers;
- (d) the reasons that officers of service-tax department do not maintain their own records regularly; and
- (e) the steps being taken to stop such harassment by withdrawing letters seeking detailed information for the last 4-5 years?
- THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir, it is a fact in some cases service-tax payers are asked by this Commissionerate to submit various information/documents including total gross amount received and total service-tax paid by them for the last five years.
- (b) Since the ST-3 returns filed by the assesses contain limited information therefore, the above details are asked alongwith other details and documents *viz.*, financial statements, balance sheets, trial balance, profit and loss accounts, income tax details and other statutory records maintained by the assessee for the purpose of carrying out audit/investigation to check proper payment of service-tax.
- (c) No, Sir, such information is being sought from service-tax payers to safeguard the Government revenue.
- (d) The records are maintained by the department. However details are sought in cases where the information required is beyond the scope of records maintained by the department.
 - (e) In view of (b) and (c) above, there is no proposal to withdraw such letters.

Allocation of gas forum KG-D6 Basin

- *400. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that based on recommendation from Group of Ministers, priority list has been finalized for allocation of KG D-6 gas for various sectors;
- (b) whether Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) have been included in the priority list;