

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Bajaj Auto Limited, Chinchwad Poona, have applied for expansion of their scooter project:

(b) whether a decision has been taken in the matter and if not, the reasons therefor and the date by when a decision is likely to be taken in the matter; and

(c) the time by when the increased production is likely to start ?

THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. V. RAGHUNATHA REDDY) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. This case was referred to the M.R.T.P. Commission and the commission had sent their Report recently, the Report was not unanimous. Moreover, some of the Parties to whom Letters of Intent were issued by the Ministry of Industrial Development for manufacture of scooters, have objected to any expansion by Bajaj Auto. A hearing in terms of section 29 of the M. R. T. P. Act was given to Bajaj Auto and other interested parties February 1972 and the case is now under active consideration of the Government for a final decision

413. [Transferred to the 6th April, 1972.]

INCOME TAX ARREARS AGAINST BOMBAY FILM PRODUCERS

414. SHRI VENIGALLA SATYA-NARAYANA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that a huge amount of Income-tax is in arrears against the Bombay film Producers;

(b) if so, the names of the defaulting producers and the amount of Income-tax arrears due from them and the years since when these amounts are due;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to recover the arrears; and

(d) whether the premises were raided any time during the last three years for evasion of taxes; if so, their names and the action taken against each of them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) to (c) The requisite particulars regarding the Bombay film producers in whose cases arrears of income-tax exceeded Rs. 10,000 as on 29.2.1972 are given as per the enclosed statement.

The information regarding the years since when the arrears shown in column 3 of the statement are outstanding is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

(d) No raids were carried out during the last three years for evasion of taxes in the premises of the film producers whose names are given in the statement.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Names of the film producers	Amount of income- tax Arrears as on 29.2.72	Steps taken or proposed to be taken to recover the arrears in Col. 3
1.	Shri B. R. Chopra	69,397	According to the Assessee certain payments towards these arrears are made at Delhi and this fact is being verified and thereafter action will be taken.
2.	Shri Shatrughit Paul	1,40,305	Considering his extremely bad financial condition he had been allowed instalments of Rs. 5,000/- p.m. and Rs. 10,000/- already collected. On comp-

S. No.	Names of the film producers	Amount of income-tax arrears as on 29.2.72	Steps taken or proposed to be taken to recover the arrears in Col. 3
			letion of one of his pictures further amounts are expected in the next six months.
3.	Shri Kamal Amrohi	2,03,422	Notice u/s 226 (3) is issued to M/s Cozihome Co-operative Society and T. R. C. is collecting Rs. 4,000/- p.m. Substantial recovery also made in the case of M/s Mahal Pictures Pvt. Ltd. of which he is the Managing Director from release of his recent picture Pakeezah.
4.	Shri Nari N. Sippy	4,47,788	Settlement petition has been recently disposed of by the CIT and after the arrears are properly crystalysed instalment scheme will be fixed up. In the meantime the party has paid Rs. 10,000.
5.	Shri Pannalal Maheshwari Prop. M/s Rekha Chitra	99,025	The party is financially broke and recovery is difficult. Coercive steps are being taken by T. R. O.
6.	Shri Tonny Walker	6,67,768	The demand is disputed in appeal. Assessee has no assets at Present.
7.	Shri Mohan Kumar	66,287	Coercive steps are being taken and notice u/s 226 (3) also issued to banks. T.R.O. is also taking further coercive steps.
8.	Shri G. L. Rawal	1,37,026	The financial position of the assessee is very bad as his recent pictures have proved to be flop. Instalments have been granted and the title deeds of the property are deposited as security.
9.	Shri J. B. H. Wadia	25,139	The assessee is paying the arrears by instalments.
10.	Late Shri Guru Dutt	1,38,969	Legal heirs are paying the tax dues in instalments granted. The demand is also disputed before the AAC.

S. No.	Names of the film producers	Amount of income tax arrears as on 29.2.72	Steps taken or proposed to be taken to recover the arrears in Col. 3
11.	Shri Raj Kapoor	5,66,023	Out of the total arrears exceeding Rs. 9 lakhs the assessee has already paid Rs. 3,50,000 plus interest liability and a further amount of Rs. 1,25,000 is promised by end of March 72 and in the initial part of the next financial year the arrears are expected to be recovered from the sale of the picture 'Mera Nam Joker' in foreign territory.
12.	Shri Sati Mukhtar	1,72,277	The assessee has no assets and TRO is taking steps to recover the amounts. Appeals are also pending before the Tribunal.
13.	Shri G. P. Sippy	39,476	The demand is kept pending only because of the adjustments pending in respect of payments made to the Collector in the past for which necessary proofs are to be produced by the party.
14.	Shri Subodh Mukherji	2,88,091	The appeals are pending before the AAC and certain refunds due are also being adjusted towards arrears.
15.	Shri Devi Sharma	38,607	The financial position of the party is very bad and therefore recovery is difficult. TRO is talking coercive steps.
16.	Shri J. Om. Prakash	1,19,277	The amount is disputed in appeal before the AAC. ITO has granted instalments of Rs. 10,000/p.m. which are being paid regularly.
17.	M/s. Nasir Hussain Films Pvt. Ltd.	37,000	The assessee had been paying the demand in instalments and arrears have been progressively reduced. Steps are being taken to collect the remaining dues.
18.	Filmistan Pvt. Ltd.	81,72,000	The business has been kept under attachment along with other assets of the Jalan Group to which this company belongs.

S. No.	Names of the film producers	Amount of income-tax arrears as on 29.2.72	Steps taken or proposed to be taken to recover the arrears in Col. 3
			Almost entire arrears are disputed in several appeals. Rs. 5 lakhs worth of cheques have been deposited and are under realisation by Department.
19.	Shri Nasir Khan Sarvar Khan.	6,09,000	Assessee's undivided interest in landed property at Nasik has been attached. The assessee has promised to pay substantial amount on re-sale of the exhibition rights of the assessee's picture 'Ganga Jamuna'. In the meanwhile he has made some comparatively small payments to the T.R.O.
20.	Shri H. S. Rawal.	4,44,000	It is reported that the assessee's two pictures 'Sangharsh' and 'Mahboob Ki Mehndi' flopped. He had failed to pay even the instalment of Rs. 10,000/-p.m. regularly. Negatives of the two films have been attached. Further proceedings are also being taken by the T.R.O.

INCOME TAX EXEMPTION LIMIT

415. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH : Will the Minister or FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the value of the Rupee has gone down since the exemption limit of Income-tax was fixed at rupees 5000 per annum;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) whether an exemption limit of Rupees 7500/- was proposed by the Boothalingam Commission, whether this proposal has been reconsidered in view of the decline in value of the Rupee since the report was last considered if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) The Honourable Member has probably in mind the increase in prices since 1970 when the exemption limit of personal income-

tax was fixed at Rs. 5000/-According to the interim series of All-India Working Class Consumer Price Index with 1949 as the base, the yearly average of the Consumer Price Index for the years 1969, 1970 and 1971 was 213, 223 and 231 respectively.

(c) In his final Report on Rationalisation and Simplification of Tax Structure, Shri Boothalingam had recommended an exemption limit of Rs. 7500/-for individual taxpayers and Rs. 10,000 or 11,000 for Hindu undivided families. The question of raising the exemption limit for taxation of personal incomes has since been examined by Government on several occasions but it has not been considered necessary to make any change in the existing exemption limit for the time being. Several considerations are involved in fixing this limit : the more important ones being the per capita incomes in the country, the proportion of the total population which contributes to direct taxes and the administrative aspects of the matter.