

(c) The total number of Individuals, Companies, firms etc. against whom Income-tax arrears exceeding Rs 1 lakh and Rs 10 lakhs were outstanding as on 31-3-1969 is given below —

	No of Assessees
Arrears exceeding Rs 1 lakh	6,738
Arrears exceeding Rs 10 lakhs	612

The general reasons for the accumulation of arrears of income tax are as under—

- (i) Demands pending realisation on account of the verification of assessee's claims of double income-tax relief
- (ii) Demands wherein the assessee has gone in appeals/references against the orders of Income-tax Officers/Appellate Assistant Commissioners/Appellate Tribunal and are not paying the disputed demands
- (iii) Demands locked up on account of the same income having been taxed in the hands of more than one assessee as a protective measure
- (iv) Demands due from companies which have gone into liquidation
- (v) Demands due from persons who have left India and/or are not traceable
- (vi) Demands due from person who have nil/inadequate assets at present
- (vii) Demands where recovery proceedings have been stayed by the High Courts/other Courts]

CONFERENCE OF TAX EXECUTIVES IN NEW DELHI

*756 SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the fourth all India conference of tax executives held recently in New Delhi has demanded the removal of restrictive limits and has asked for a review of the existing tax incentives to business and industry, and

(b) if so, what are the reactions of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI) (a) The fourth all India Conference of Tax Executives of Companies held recently in New Delhi dis-

cussed problems connected with the administration of direct taxes in India. However Government have not so far received any communication in this behalf from the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry which sponsored the conference

(b) In view of the answer to part (a) above, the question does not arise

ASSISTANCE TO EXPORTERS BY NATIONALISED BANK

*757 SHRI S. A. KHAJA MOHI-DEEN Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state (a) whether Government have explored the avenues as to how best the nationalised banks can be pressed into service to assist exporters in the country, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI) (a) and (b) The nationalised banks are alive to the need for according high priority to the provision of credit to assist exporters. The facilities available to exporters from the banking system are kept under constant review. As a further measure of assistance, eight of the nationalised banks have opened Export Cells at some of their branches to supply information and guide exporters. The other nationalised banks have also made special arrangements for this purpose at their existing foreign exchange departments.

WHITE WASHING OF TYPE IV QUARTERS

*758 SHRI K. C. PANDA Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the white-washing and repairs are not undertaken in type IV quarters of the Gole Market area before the Dewali festival every year,

(b) if so whether the Chief Engineer, C. P. W. D. has fixed responsibility on the officers concerned for their negligence, and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to ensure that this work is not delayed in future?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI K. K. SHAH) (a) The annual repair and maintenance work^e

including white-washing of quarters, are generally commenced after the rainy season is over. It is not, therefore, possible to complete the works before Dewali.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

RAMGANGA PROJECT

*759. SHRI M. K. MOHTA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the completion of the Ramganga Project is four years behind the schedule ;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) the additional expenditure likely to be incurred as a result thereof ; and

(d) the steps taken by the Central Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO) : (a) The Ramganga Project was sanctioned by the Uttar Pradesh Government in 1961-62. It was anticipated in the Project estimates that the Project would require 8 working seasons for its completion. After most of the orders of the equipment which had to be imported had been placed and the picture regarding their arrival at the Project site became somewhat clearer, the Ramganga Control Board reviewed the construction schedule in April, 1964 and fixed the target date of completion as June, 1972. The position was again reviewed by the Board in December, 1967 and the target date was revised to June, 1973.

(b) Difficulty in procurement of equipment, spare parts, unprecedented floods of August, 1966, labour unrest and certain technical difficulties experienced have contributed to the delay.

(c) There is likely to be an increase in the overhead charges, but the actual increase cannot be assessed at this stage.

(d) Necessary action is being taken to assist the Project authorities in getting the machinery and spare parts in time.

PUBLIC SECTOR PROJECTS

*760. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA :
SHRI C. D. PANDE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Chairmen who have been newly appointed during the last three years in all the public sector projects under the Government of India ;

(b) the names of such public sector projects and the names of the Chairmen so appointed ; and

(c) what are the criteria for selection for the post of a Chairman ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix LXX. Annexure No. 105].

†SHIFTING OF BRANCH OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT AND ACCOUNTS, P. & T., CALCUTTA

*696. SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MO-KHERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have decided to shift some branches of the office of the Director of Audit and Accounts P & T Calcutta to Cuttack, Shillong and Patna with effect from 1st December, 1969.

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether Government are aware that a large number of officials would be affected adversely from financial point of view as a result of such shifting ; and

(d) if so, what measures Government propose to take to protect the financial interests of the employees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P.C. SETHI) : (a) and (b) In view of the increase in P & T transactions and the formation of new P & T circles, it has become administratively desirable to create audit offices for each P & T circle and locate them in proximity to the administrative offices. Accordingly, the offices of the Director of Audit and Accounts, P & T Calcutta, Madras, Nagpur etc. are being reorganised on a circle-wise basis. The circle office at Cuttack has started functioning from 1st December, 1969. Details are being worked out for the formation of similar offices at Shillong and Patna.

†Transferred from the 19th December, 1969.