

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: The Minister mentioned about some special circle for assessment of the higher income groups. May I know if it has come to his notice that many assessments are done when they are barred by limitation of time? Has he any information to show that out of the assessments done in the last 2 years, how many were done when it was just the time for being time-barred?

SHRI K. C. PANT: I do not have the information.

श्री शिवकी सिंह : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी को यह ज्ञात है कि छोटी आमदनी वालों के लिये भी इनकम टैक्स के असेसमेंट का फैसला होने में दो-दो तीन तीन साल लग जाते हैं और फैसला नहीं हो पाता है ?

दूसरी बात यह है क्या माननीय मंत्री इस बात का ध्यान रखते हुए कि सरकार के पास धन की कमी है और वह अपने खर्च को पूरा नहीं कर पा रही है, करोड़ों रुपये के टैक्स की बकाया का असेस करने और वसूल करने के लिये कोई विशेष कदम उठा रहे हैं या उठाने की सोच रहे हैं ?

श्री के० सी० पन्त : जी हां, विशेष कदम उठाने की सोच भी रहे हैं और कुछ उठाएं भी हैं इसीलिये इनकम टैक्स आफिसर्स जो कम आमदनी वाले केसेज हैं उनमें कम समय जाया करेंगे और ज्यादा आमदनी वाले केसेज में ध्यान केन्द्रित करेंगे, और जो स्ट्रक्चरल चेन्जेज की बात मैंने कही वह भी करेंगे ।

KEROSENE UNIT OF THE GAUHATI PLANT

*355. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that idle time in the Kerosene Unit of the Ginhati Plant increased from 3.6 per cent, in 1962 to 45 per cent, in 1965;

(b) what is the amount of loss in terms of money on account of the plant remaining idle from 1962 to 1965;

(c) what are the reasons for the plant remaining idle; and

(d) what are the steps taken by Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND OF PLANNING AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH): (a) It is not clear how the figures of 3.6 per cent, and 45 per cent, have been arrived at. However, during 1905, the Kerosene refining unit of Gauhati Refinery operated for 45 days as against 85 days during 1962.

(b) There is no loss, as the restricted operation of the Kerosene Unit does not affect either the refinery throughout or the overall production.

(c) The operations of the kerosene refining unit are limited in extent of the demand for iomex and the economics of operating the unit.

(d) The present situation does not call for any remedial steps.

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: May I know from the Minister when it came to the notice of the Government that the Gauhati plant was working to almost half its capacity? When did the Government take remedial steps and have the remedial steps yielded results? How does the idle time in 1966 compare with the idle time in 1965?

SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH: I presume he is referring to the kerosene unit. The kerosene unit worked for 85 days in 1962 and during 1965 it worked for 45 days. If I explain the working, probably my friend will understand. In a distilling unit there is a kind of kerosene which is more in the nature of inferior kerosene. When it is put in the kerosene refining unit, then it gives superior kerosene leaving also a quantity of iomex

Therefore the functioning of the refining unit depends upon the demand for iomex. If the demand is less then we will have to sell the thing straight from the distilling unit as inferior Kerosene. That is what has happened in these years.

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: May I know whether the management of the plant was also in any way responsible for the under-utilisation if the plant capacity? Did they do anything to rectify the situation at their own level before the Central Government stepped in? Has this under-utilisation of the plant resulted in pushing up the sale price of kerosene oil?

SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH: I have already said that there is no loss or reduction in the overall output. It is true that they are selling inferior kerosene straightway because sometime back they experimented mixing iomex with inferior kerosene, but it was not a success. The Corporation are exploring whether we can find a suitable way of using iomex. If they cannot, they may sell it all as inferior kerosene. There is no loss. I am sorry the hon. Member has mentioned the management in this connection. The management has nothing to do with this. It is just a question of finding a market for the products.

SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAH: May I know whether there is any retrenchment at Gauhati unit and, if so, what is the likely number?

SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH: Sir, I would require a separate notice for that question.

MEMORANDUM ON INDIA'S PROBLEMS AND BIRTH CONTROL

*356. SHRI HARISH CHANDRA MATHUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether in further pursuance of Minister's discussion with His Holiness the Pope in Rome, a memorandum has been submitted regarding, India's problems and birth control; and

(b) whether support of religious heads is being sought for Government's programme; and if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND-FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI B. S. MURTHY): (a) A memorandum will be sent shortly.

(b) This is being considered.

SHRI HARISH CHANDRA MATHUR: Sir, the hon. Minister, 'When he was replying to this question on an earlier occasion, had stated that they had taken a decision in the Cabinet and it was in pursuance of that Cabinet decision that he was meeting the religious heads. May I now ask, what was the nature of that Cabinet decision and how is it that he decided and thought it fit to go and meet His Holiness the Pope out of this country without first contacting the Sankaracharyas in this country, and the Maulvis and Mullas and the Jain and Buddhist leaders and saints, who have a much greater and larger impact on the religious susceptibilities of the people? Therefore, I would like to know what are the directions which the Cabinet had given to the hon. Minister and how he arranged the priorities and what is his programme for the future.

SHRI B. S. MURTHY: I am afraid I cannot say anything about the Cabinet decision. But as far as the Minister meeting the Pope is concerned, the Minister had gone to attend the World Health Conference in