

Income Tax Department during F.Y. 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12, undisclosed income of about Rs. 4,857.10 crore, Rs. 5,894.44 crore and Rs. 6,572.75 crore, respectively were detected.

Allowing opium farming in Himachal Pradesh

821. SHRI BAISHNAB PRIDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to allow opium farming in Himachal Pradesh;
- (b) whether such a proposal has been received from State;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether opium is imported from other countries for use in the medicines;
- (e) if so, whether opium farming is proposed to be legalized in India in view of its medicinal use; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) In 2001 and 2004, the State Government of Himachal Pradesh had suggested to allow opium cultivation in the State. As the requirement of opium for medicinal and scientific purposes is completely met from the opium poppy cultivated in notified tracts of the traditional opium cultivation States of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, the suggestion for allowing opium cultivation in new area was not agreed to.

(d) Opium is not imported from other countries as the requirement of opium for medicinal and scientific purposes is completely met from domestic production.

(e) and (f) Licit cultivation of opium for medicinal and scientific purposes is already permitted in three States of India, namely, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

Waiving off VAT on textile product

822. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: