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Copy of Extract from Prime Minister's minute dated 19.6.74  
addressed to the Home Minister .

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9. (a)

Excise : It is now generally accepted that the excise policy followed by the State Governments has resulted in exploitation. A sub-committee of the Central Advisory Board on Prohibition comprising excise ministers of States, which went into this question has confirmed this finding. Some time ago a group of Members of Parliament had represented against sale of distilled liquor in tribal areas. They went to the extent of suggesting that the developmental outlays could be reduced if revenue considerations come in the way. The Central Advisory Board of Prohibition has endorsed the suggestion. At the meeting of the Board, the excise Ministers did raise the question of revenue but in view of the continuing exploitation it was agreed that compensation could not be a pre-condition for the change. The Scheduled Areas and Tribes Commission had made similar recommendations in 1961 but it is a pity that even though accepted by the Government these have remained unimplemented so far. Since the matter has been gone into in detail, an early decision on the new excise policy should be taken without any further delay.

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Sd/-  
(Indira Gandhi)  
19.6.1974

Home Minister

PM'S Sectt. No. 139-PMO/74 dated 19.6.1974.