

EXCISE

1. There was a time when the tribal depended on his indigenous own sources for extraction and preparation of drink and, more often than not, he used it more as a beverage. But ever since the plains-men's intrusion into the tribal areas and consequent introduction of distilled liquor vending, things changed. The nontribal liquor vendors' salesmanship has been pushing the tribal into larger doses and towards addiction in Central India. In the North East, the situation is said to be serious as there seems to be large-scale trafficking of drugs and narcotics. Regrettably, it is the tribal youth who has been enticed and there is wastage of precious. young lives who are national assets.	No license is granted for vending distilled liquor in tribal areas of A & islands. There is no restriction on brewing the traditional liquor by the tribals, but the tribals (Nicobarese) of this UT do not brew any kind of liquor. They use on Toddy extricated from coconut tree.
2. To meet the situation in Central India, in 1975 the Government of India issued guidelines for an excise policy for TSP areas which, in nutshell, called for abolition of liquor vending and allowed brewing by tribals for their domestic and social consumption. Did the State Government adopt that policy? If so, please furnish requisite papers.	No licence is granted for vending liquor in the tribal areas in pursuance of the Excise Policy issued by the Govt. of India.
3. If not, please mention the reasons. It is evident that adoption of such a policy would mean foregoing of excise revenue. But the compensatory advantage in the shape of conservation of tribal youth power and lives, would be far more weighty. Would the State Government consider its adoption even now?	Does not arise in view of reply to the points No.2.
4. Please state the quantum of excise revenue collected from TSP areas as well as the number of liquor contractors involved.	No.
5. Have the State Government conducted a survey of the extent of addiction prevalent among tribals in the TSP areas? Has it decreased or increased in the last four decades? If it is not possible to assess quantitatively, some appraisal could be made qualitatively.	No.