

(b) whether the Ninth Finance Commission has made special recommendations for tackling the problems of Bombay City;

(c) whether the Government have finalised the proposal of grant for the year 1991-92 to meet the requirements of the city; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A sum of Rs. 50 Crores has been sanctioned by the Ninth Finance Commission for providing necessary infrastructure & essential civic services in Bombay.

(c) and (d). The development of cities & towns is a State subject. In certain special cases where the physical condition in the city warrant and immediate action, Central Government provides assistance in a very limited way. The funds for the development of infrastructure in urban areas are routed to the State Govt./Union Territories through the Planning Commission under their annual plan scheme, on the basis of the proposals, received from the concerned State Govts./Union Territories. This is applicable to Bombay city also.

Rise in Coal Prices

1263. SHRI MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI SUDHIR GIRI:
SHRIGEORGE FERNANDES:
SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD
YADAV:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of rise in coal prices of various grades effected by the Government recently and the reasons therefor; and

(b) the likely impact thereof on the consumer, both in the public and private sectors and anticipated overall escalation in the production cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P.A. SAI. GMA):

(a) The revision of coal prices w.e.f. 28.12.1991 has increased the average pit-head prices of coal produced by Coal India Limited (CIL) by 29.3% and that of Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) by 30.6%. The prices of coal have been revised to recoup the increase in the cost of Wages and other inputs.

(b) The estimated increase in production cost of three major coal consuming sectors because of increase in the price of coal w.e.f. 28.12.91 is as follows:-

	<i>CIL Coal</i>	<i>SCCL Coal</i>
Power (paise/KWH)	5	6.48
Steel (Rs./tonne)	250.50	
Cement (Rs./tonne)	18.25	22.75

[Translation]

SC/ST quota in BHEL

1264. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA: Will

the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prescribed reservation quota for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Bharat Heavy Electrical Limited

have been filled up;

(b) if so, the number of persons recruited since July 1991;

(c) whether the prescribed reservation quota upto 1991 have been filled up; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of workers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are working at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) No, Sir.

(b) BHEL has recruited 345 persons during the period July 91 - Dec. 91. Out of this, 119 persons i.e. about 34.5% belong to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The number of employees belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes working in BHEL as on 31-12-1991 is 12,756.

[English]

Discussions with Trade Unions over Sick Units

1265. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to have discussions with trade unions and local public representatives of the sick public sector units before sending them to the Bureau of Industrial Finance and Reconstruction;

(b) if so, whether any such discussion, was held;

(c) if so, the details where such discus-

sions were held; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) to (d). The Ministry of Labour constituted a Special Tripartite Committee consisting of representatives of Central trade union organisations, employers' organisations and Central Government. The Committee held its first meeting on 21.12.1991 in which it was decided that the Committee would consider the general principles for rehabilitation of chronically sick units and ensure protection of workers' interest and Industrial Committees in respect of those industries where the number of sick units is large should be revived. In the second meeting held on 20.1.92, it was decided that reconstituted Industrial Committees on various industries, namely, textiles, jute, electricity generation, road transportation, engineering and chemicals would review the sick units in those industries, unit-wise, and would prescribe appropriate remedies. The referral to the Board of Industrial Finance and Reconstruction (BIFR) is automatic as per the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. However, the consideration of the sick units by the different re-constituted Industrial Committees/Special Tripartite Committee and BIFR are not mutually exclusive.

[Translation]

Manufacturing of low cost Personal Computers

1266. SHRI SURYA NARAIN YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to manufacture low cost personal computers in the country;