

MUNSI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether CBI is enquiring into the irregularities of the Punjab National Bank for advancing money to Rajendra Sethia of London who is now in custody;

(b) whether similar investigations are there in the Bank of Baroda in their fraud recently at Calcutta; and

(c) the number of bank officials now being investigated by CBI in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The CBI has reported that 386 bank employees of 28 public sector banks were involved in the cases registered by it during the year 1984.

Benefit of Increase in Ceilings of DCRG to Employees of Nationalised Banks and Public Undertakings

6019. **SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN** : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the benefits of increase in the ceilings of death-cum-retirement gratuity announced recently by the Union Government in case of Central Government employees would also be applicable in case of employees of nationalised banks, LIC, SAIL, Coal India Ltd. and other Central Government undertakings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the contemplation of Government in the matter; and

(d) whether Government have any

proposal to amend section 10 (10) (iii) of the Income-tax Act to increase exemption limit for death-cum-retirement gratuity in case of employees of nationalised banks, LIC, SAIL, Coal India Ltd. and other Central Government undertakings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARI) : (a) to (c) The question of extending the benefit of increased ceiling of death-cum-retirement gratuity as announced by the Government in the case of Central Government employees to the employees of Public Enterprises, who are otherwise not covered by the provisions of Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972, is under active consideration of the Government. There is, however, no proposal at present under the consideration of the Government, to extend these benefits to the employees of nationalised banks and LIC.

(d) Steps are being taken by the Government to issue a notification under the third proviso to Section 10 (10) of the Income Tax Act 1961 to raise the exemption limit in respect of death-cum-retirement gratuity to Rs. 50,000.

Requirement and Production of Saleable Steel

6020. **SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK** : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any assessment about the total likely requirement of saleable steel in the country by the end of Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the likely demand of saleable steel in the country during that period;

(c) the achievement made in the