

(c) the nature of reliefs proposed to be given to Khandsari units to save these from losses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) The prices of different grades of molasses are fixed on the basis of sugar content which is considered to be a reasonable basis.

(b) The distribution and prices of molasses, including Khandsari molasses, are controlled under the Molasses Control Order, 1961. The order, in so far as it relates to Khandsari Molasses, has been made applicable to Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Karnataka, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu from 1st November, 1975, as the Governments of these states had given their consent thereto.

(c) No report of losses of Khandsari units has been received from the State Governments.

Absorption of Reserved Trained Pool Candidates

4309. SHRI M. SUBBA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of candidates in the Reserved Trained pool (RTP) of the Departments of Posts and Telecommunications who have not been absorbed in regular vacancies so far due to ban on creation of posts;

(b) whether it is necessary to apply the ban on creation of posts in revenue earning departments like Posts and Telecommunications; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to deal with the candidates of Reserved Trained Pool in a fair and equitable manner and to redress their grievances ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The number of Reserve Trained Pool candidates in the Department of Posts is about 12,000 and in the Deptt. of Telecommunications is out 7,000.

(b) and (c). A scheme of keeping a Reserve Trained Pool candidates in Time Scale clerical cadre of operative offices in the Department of Posts and Departments of Telecommunications has been introduced to cope with contingencies like peak hour/seasonal increase of work, absenteeism etc. in the operative offices of the two departments and to have a pool of trained candidates to be appointed against regular vacancies. Candidates kept in the Reserves Trained Pool are recruited against future anticipated vacancies earmarked for direct recruitment and till absorption in regular cadres, their services are utilised on hourly rates of wages as determined from time to time. Since RTP candidates are recruited against future anticipated vacancies for direct recruitment, their absorption in the regular vacancies is not permissible during currency of ban. Exemption has not been given to the two department from operation of the ban. An assurance has been given to the RTP candidates that their absorption in regular grades will be considered after the ban is lifted and vacancies become available for this purpose.

Transportation of wheel sets by road

4311. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether transportation of wheel sets in usually made by railways and not by road;

(b) if so, the circumstances under which wheel sets were transported by road from Bharatpur (Rajasthan) to Mokameh (Bihar) by Bharat Wagon and Engg. Co.;

(c) whether a sum of Rs. 4,20,000 was paid to the transport agency for this job against the estimated cost of Rs. 1,15,000 by railways; and

(d) whether Government are contemplating any enquiry in the matter, if so, the details thereof ?

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