

before giving the extension/re-employment to the employee and the formalities required in doing so; and

(d) whether persons can be considered for extension/re-employment after their superannuation even when other competent individuals are available in the same Undertaking?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) The Managements of the Public Sector Undertakings are empowered to grant extension/re-employment beyond the age of superannuation in cases where the pay (including pension and pensionary benefits) does not exceed Rs. 2500 p.m. (pre-revised).

(b) and (c) The proposals which are required to be submitted to the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet for its approval have to be sent to the Department of Personnel and Training normally two months in advance.

(d) Grant of extension/re-employment should be in the interest of the Undertaking and all relevant aspects including the availability of a suitable successor are to be taken into consideration while deciding such cases.

Interest on loans from Sugar Development fund

***428. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAO-SAHEB TOPE:** Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have increased the rate of interest on loans from the Sugar Development Fund;

(b) If so, the extent of increase and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the said fund is created out of the cess collected from the sugar factories for the purpose of development of the sugar industry; and

(d) if so, the reasons for increasing the rate of interest frequently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The concessional rate of interest of six percent per annum for SDF loans was raised with effect from 24-4-1991 by three percent keeping in view the existing structure of interest rates in allied sectors and other relevant factors.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The interest at the rate of six percent for SDF loans was fixed in 1985 and the above revision has been made after more than five years.

[Translation]

Setting up of the Industries on Aligarh-Etah Highway

***429. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up industries on hundreds of acres of barren land near Sikandra-Rau on Aligarh-Etah Highway;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to allot this land free of cost to the industrialists; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) The Central Government at present have no proposal to set up any industry on Aligarh-Etah Highway. Industrialisa-