

Grant of Andaman special allowance to Bank Employees

2942. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the bank employees working in Andaman and Nicobar Islands about their case for grant of Andaman special allowance, compensatory allowance and special area allowance applicable to the transferrable Government servants working in North-Eastern Region and Andaman; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). In regard to payment of special allowances to officers and workmen posted in Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Government have received a request from the Indian Banks' Association for issue of guidelines by Government in respect of officers and for conveying Government's permission for modifying its settlements with the workmen unions, in line with Government instructions on the subject. The matter is receiving Government's attention.

Revival of Post of Executive Directors in Public Sector Banks

2943. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether there is any move to revive the post of executive directors in all public sector banks;

(b) if so, the considerations which have led to this move for revival;

(c) the steps being taken to avoid differences and clashes between Chairman and executive director on policy matters so that the functioning of banks is not adversely affected; and

(d) the time by which all appointments are expected to be made ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b).

The Nationalised Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) Schemers of 1970 and 1980 provide that Government may appoint two whole time Directors on any nationalised bank—one of whom would be Managing Director. The provision to appoint a second whole-time Director—designated Executive Director—had not been deleted and, therefore, the question of the revival of this post does not arise.

(c) Chairman and Managing Director and Executive Director are two whole-time Directors of a bank. The former being the highest executive and the latter the second highest executive in a bank, appointed by the Government, are expected to work together to conduct the operations of the bank efficiently in all aspects. While some differences in opinion and approach are natural, Government would take appropriate steps, when considered necessary, if it is felt that such differences are affecting the bank adversely.

(d) The appointment of an Executive Director and timing of such appointment would depend upon the needs and circumstances of individual banks.

Finalisation of Accounts of Lakshmi Commercial Bank

2944. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the accounts of the Lakshmi Commercial Bank Limited, Delhi as on 31st December, 1984 and further as on 30 June, 1985 have not been made up-to-date properly reconciled and finished before the decision of its merger;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken to have the accounts properly finalised and audited before the decision of its merger with any nationalised bank is implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Pursuant to the request made by Lakshmi Commercial Bank Limited, Government have granted it under section 53 of the Banking

Regulation Act, 1949, exemption from the provisions of section 31 of the said Act till July 31, 1985 which would allow the bank to finalise its accounts by that date.

(c) Reserve Bank has approved the proposals of the Bank for the appointment of statutory auditors and Branch Auditors for the year 1984. The Reserve Bank of India has also nominated auditors for auditing the balance sheet of the Lakshmi Commercial Bank Ltd. as on the date of the moratorium and as on the date immediately preceding the prescribed date upto which the moratorium is in operation.

Proposal to dereserve mining areas for exploitation by Private Sector

2945. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV :
SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal under consideration to dereserve some mining areas for exploitation by the private sector;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the financial and other benefits likely to accrue to Government by making this change in policy ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :
(a) and (b). The Minister Advisory Council had recommended the preparation of a list

of mineral bearing areas reserved for public sector undertaking, and the holding of a dialogue with the public sector undertakings if these are not required by them in foreseeable future. A Committee has been constituted in the Department of Mines to go into the various aspects of this issue and to submit its report.

(c) An assessment of the monetary benefit which would accrue to the Government is not possible at this stage as the Committee has yet to submit its report.

Rise in Ash Content of Coking Coal

2946. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV :
Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the average ash content of our coking coal delivered to the Steel Plants has risen from around 19 per cent to 24 per cent in the last six years;

(b) if so, the details there of and to what extent it has affected the production in the Steel Plants; and

(c) the remedial measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :
(a) to (c). The ash content of coking coal supplied to steel plants has shown an increase in respect of some washeries and decrease in respect of some others during the last six years as indicated below. There has been distinct improvement in 1984-85 as compared to 1983-84:

Ash Percentage in Washed Coal in CIL Washerries as Analysed at the Steel Plants

Washery	79-80	80-81	81-82	82-83	83-84	84-85
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Dugda-I	22.1	23.4	22.2	22.1	22.9	22.1
Dugda-II	22.4	23.1	22.3	22.7	23.0	22.0
Bhojudih	19.1	19.7	20.5	21.0	21.8	21.1
Patherdih	22.1	22.2	22.7	22.1	22.6	22.5