

matter of fitment in the new Pay scales; if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether such officers have been given the option to remain in the old Pay scales; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b). The recommendations of the Pillai Committee were modified in the light of the suggestions made by the Group of Bankers who examined them and the discussions held by the Indian Banks Association (IBA) with the Officers Organisations. To give effect to the Pillai Committee Scheme, as finally approved by the Government, the Boards of Directors of the (14) Nationalised Banks adopted new Officers Service Regulations. These Regulations provide that the Government will, from time to time, issue appropriate guidelines on certain specified matters. These include criteria to be adopted for categorisation of posts, norms for classifications of branches, principles for fitment in the revised pay scales, dearness allowance, promotion policy, age of retirement, conveyance allowance loans for purchase of motor cars, scooters and motor cycles and housing loans etc. The Government have accordingly been issuing guidelines from time to time to ensure uniform and standardised practices in such matters in all the nationalised banks.

(c) to (e). There is no question of any discrimination in the matter of fitment in the new pay scales or in any other manner against any category of officers. Officers already in the service of the bank on the appointed date viz., 1st July 1979 have all been given the option to continue in the scale of pay in which they were prior to the appointed date. Such option will, however, continue only until the officer is promoted to the next grade. The question of giving such option to the officers who

joined service after the appointed date does not arise, as they are all governed by the new pay scales.

Protection and indemnity Club

4704. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have revived the move to establish a protection and indemnity club in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b). A proposal to set up a Protection and Indemnity Club in India is under consideration of the General Insurance Corporation of India. The General Insurance Corporation of India has requested the ship-owners to furnish the necessary details and it is understood that the Board of Directors of Indian National Shipowners Association is examining the matter from the point of view of efficiency in operation and economy for shipowners.

Ferro Vanadium Project

4705. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons why Ferro Vanadium Project of Raviranghpur in the district of Mayurbhanj is not being implemented and the letter of intent extended till 29th December, 1980;

(b) whether it is a fact that the State Government moved the Union Government for financial participation in the equity of the project 50:50 basis and is it a fact that due to delay on the part of the Government of India to take a decision in this regard, the project is not being implemented; and

(c) whether in view of the strategic importance of the project, Government propose to consider the speedy implementation of the project?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). The validity period of the Letter of Intent dated 30-12-1978, held by Messrs IPICOL, for manufacturing ferro vanadium and low phosphorus pig iron, has been extended by the Government by one year on the request made by the firm and recommendation made by the State Government. It is correct that the State Government of Orissa have requested the Central Government for financial participation in project on a 50:50 basis. The request is under consideration. The State Government have also informed the Central Government that pending a decision on their request the firm have decided to go ahead with the project during the current financial year out of their own resources.

Capacity utilisation of Bokaro, Durgapur and IISCO

4706. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:

SHRI K. MALLANNA:

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

(a) whether it is fact that the present capacity utilization of Bokaro, Durgapur and IISCO is 43.49 and 54 per cent while Bhilai and Rourkela had registered 87 per cent;

(b) if so, the reasons for low capacity utilization for the first three plants; and

(c) what was the capacity utilised in each unit?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). Capacity utilisation in the five integrated steel plants under the Steel

Authority of India Limited during 1979-80 was as under:

Plant	Saleable Steel
Bhilai Steel Plant	86.8
Durgapur Steel Plant	48.7
Rourkela Steel Plant	85.3
Bokaro Steel Plant	42.5
Indian Iron & Steel Co.	53.8
Total	63.5

The main reasons for low capacity utilisation in Bokaro, Durgapur and Indian Iron & Steel Company steel plants were severe constraints in coking coal supplies, both in terms of quantity and quality, and inadequate availability of power.

Investigation of Small Income Cases in West Bengal

4707. SHRI D. L. BAITHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the last Conference of the Commissioners of Income-tax, it was resolved to accept the returned income of Rs. 1 lakh without calling for the assessee and making a deep investigation;

(b) whether in West Bengal Charge even small income cases have been kept for deep investigation without any information on basis on the files, which was not only causing harassment to the tax payer but was also not in keeping with the spirit of the scheme; and

(c) if the answers to the above parts are in affirmative, whether he proposes to depute some Senior Officers of the Central Board of Direct Taxes to thoroughly scrutinise and