

foreign investor to have majority control over the operations of the Indian company. In all other cases, foreign investors are allowed only upto 40 per cent of shares in an Indian company provided the proposed investment is in an area where foreign investment is permissible.

Disposal of surplus iron ore from the Kudremukh project

1538. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether efforts to locate alternative markets abroad for the surplus iron ore concentrates from the Kudremukh Project in Karnataka have proved futile; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and steps proposed to be taken for the disposal of surplus ore?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Vigorous efforts are being made by Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Ltd. to find alternative markets for the concentrate.

Guidelines for Appointments to Posts carrying special pay in Central Excise and Customs Department

1539. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have laid down any guidelines for regulating appointments to posts carrying special pay in the Central Excise and Customs Department and if so, whether a copy of the orders will be laid on the table of the House;

(b) whether special pay posts are treated as selection posts or non-selection posts;

(c) whether any minimum qualifications in the particular grade has been prescribed for regulating appointments to Special Pay Posts;

(d) whether there are several cases where officers are appointed to Special Pay Posts immediately on promotion to higher posts e.g. from Assistant Collector to Dy. Collector, from Superintendent Group 'B' to Assistant Collector etc.; and

(e) whether the Special Pay Posts are utilised to accommodate certain officers on verge of superannuation to enable them to get extra pension and gratuity?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Special pay is attached to a post in terms of the relevant Fundamental Rules having regard to the nature of the duties appertaining to such post. Posting of officers to the posts carrying special pay are made in the same manner and on the same considerations as to other posts. There are no formal orders/guidelines regulating appointment to posts carrying special pay.

(b) These are not selection posts.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) There is no bar to a person being appointed to a special pay post immediately on his promotion.

(e) postings are not made on this kind of consideration.

Recruitment of Officers of other Departments after Superannuation

1540. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Tourism has been recruiting officers belonging to other Departments after their superannuation and if so, how many such retired officers have been taken in the I.T.D.C. during the last two years;

(b) what are the special grounds for recruiting such retired officers in the I.T.D.C. from other Departments and whether qualified persons are not