

pelled to work under their juniors who have been promoted to higher grades without even five years experience;

(b) whether it is also true that officials sitting side by side, and doing the same work, performing similar duties and having the same responsibilities in the Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit are getting Deputation (Duty) Allowance and the staff of the Controller of Accounts are not paid Deputation (Duty) Allowance;

(c) if so, the reasons for this discrimination;

(d) whether the Finance Ministry have been receiving representations in the matter; and

(e) if so, action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) Consequent on the departmentalisation of accounts of Union Government, some of the staff employed in various Offices of the Indian Audit and Accounts Department were transferred to the Accounts side along with the work on which they were engaged, under the provisions of the Departmentalisation of Union Accounts (Transfer of Personnel) Act, 1976. Accordingly the Staff engaged in the Office of the erstwhile Accountant General, Central Revenues (now Director Audit, Central Revenues) on external assistance transactions was transferred to the Ministry of Finance and located in the Office of the Controller of Aid, Accounts and Audit along with other staff already working there.

As the persons transferred from the erstwhile A.G.C.R.'s Office and those taken on deputation basis do not belong to a common seniority list, the question of any compulsion or seniors working under juniors does not arise.

(b) As explained above, some of the posts in the Office of the Controller of Aid, Accounts and Audit are manned by the Staff of the Indian Audit and

Accounts Department transferred along with their work consequent upon departmentalisation of Union accounts and the other posts are those which are filled up by the Department of Economic Affairs in accordance with the relevant Recruitment Rules which inter alia provide payment of deputation (duty) allowance.

(c) to (e). Deputation (duty) allowance is admissible when appointments are made by transfer on a temporary basis to other Departments or State Government provided the transfer is outside the normal field of deployment. Representation from employees belonging to the Cadre of Controller of Accounts and working in the Office of Controller of Aid, Accounts and Audit were received for payment of Deputation (duty) Allowance to them. In the peculiar circumstances in which the staff borne on the cadre of Controller of Accounts was allocated to the Office of the Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit, their transfer to the Office of the Controller of Aid, Accounts and Audit is not deemed as outside the normal field of their deployment. The payment of deputation (duty) allowance is, therefore, not admissible.

Output of Mica

2658. **SHRI N. DENNIS:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total output of mica in India during the last five calendar years, State-wise;

(b) whether mica production is getting reduced in recent years; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to improve mica production?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The total output of mica in the country during the last five calendar years is given below:—

(Qty. in tonnes)

| Name of State | 1975 | 1976 | 1977 | 1978 | 1979 |
|--------------------------|-------|------|------|------|------|
| Andhra Pradesh | 3584 | 2834 | 2913 | 3067 | 2641 |
| Bihar | 6191 | 5795 | 5559 | 5714 | 5394 |
| Rajasthan | 1686 | 850 | 860 | 801 | 935 |
| Tamil Nadu | 40 | 14 | 20 | 11 | 10 |
| West Bengal | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| Total | 11501 | 9494 | 9532 | 9693 | 8980 |

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government has set up a Committee to conduct an in-depth study of various problems facing the mica industry. The Committee is at work and its report is awaited.

Allotment of quota of Stainless Steel, Aluminium to SC/ST

2659. SHRI K. B. S. MANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) is it a fact that the reservation of percentage of allotment of quota of stainless steel, aluminium etc., to the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes in MMTC has been discontinued;

(b) if so, from when and the reasons therefor;

(c) how many applications have been received during the period, from when the reservation of quota for SC/ST has been fixed and how many SC/ST have been benefited and how many applications are still pending; when the balance applications will be finalised; and

(d) is there any proposal to revive the old procedure reserving quota for SC/ST and if so, when it will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN): (a) to (d). In terms of the import policy, there is no reservation of percentage of allotment of quota to the SC/ST in respect of stainless steel, aluminium

etc. The question of discontinuing percentage allotment of quota of such metals therefore would not arise.

ग्रफीम की खेती में किसानों को होने वाली कठिनाइयों को दूर करने के लिए परामर्शदात्री समिति की स्थापना

2660. श्री सत्यनारायण जटिया : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या किसानों को ग्रफीम की खेती में होने वाली कठिनाइयों और समस्याओं को दूर करने के उद्देश्य से सरकार का, केन्द्रीय स्तर पर, किसी परामर्शदात्री बोर्ड अथवा समिति के गठन का प्रस्ताव है ; और

(ख) क्या किसानों द्वारा उनके पास उपलब्ध पोस्त की भूसी के संग्रह करने पर कोई प्रतिबंध है और यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी कारण क्या हैं ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सबाई सिंह सिसोदिया) : (क) जी नहीं ?

(ख) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सदन-पटल पर रख दी जाएगी ।