

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Steel Authority of India Limited have advised the Rourkela Steel Plant to examine and prepare an action plan to give further encouragement for setting up ancillary industries by local people around Rourkela.

(b) to (d). Since the plan is yet to be drawn up, it is too early to furnish any details.

Retirement Benefits to Employees retiring Voluntarily

4683. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government employees seeking voluntary retirement are not entitled to all the benefits such as encashment of leave etc; available to employees retiring on normal superannuation;

(b) if so, the details regarding the reasons for not extending full retirement benefits to the employees retiring voluntarily; and

(c) whether Government propose to amend the rules for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) Central Government employees retiring voluntarily like those retiring on superannuation are entitled to all benefits, like cash equivalent of leave salary for earned leave at credit, death-cum-retirement gratuity and pension based on length of service. In addition, employees retiring voluntarily are also entitled to cash equivalent of half-pay leave subject to the condition that earned leave and half-pay leave do not extend beyond normal superannuation date, and pension and pensionary equivalent of retirement benefits are deducted from leave salary for half-pay leave.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Pricing and distribution of Items Handled by STC

4684. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed or propose to review to go into the question of pricing and distribution of items handled by the State Trading Corporation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b). Pricing and distribution of items handled by STC is done as per the policy of Government and is reviewed from time to time. The release price of the imported materials is fixed by the Pricing Committee of the Chief Controller of Imports & Exports and is reviewed by the same body. The distribution of such materials is done as per allocations made by sponsoring authority or as per connected policy of the Government of India for importing these commodities.

Application made by Regional Rural Bank, Bank of Tamil Nadu and Bank of Madurai to R.B.I. for opening of Branches

4685. SHRI D. S. A. SIVAPRAKASAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Regional Rural Bank (Pandyan Grama Bank) in Tamil Nadu, Bank of Tamil Nadu and Bank of Madurai had submitted any application to the Reserve Bank to open branches under section 23 of Banking Regulation Act;

(b) if so, how many branches each bank wanted to open; and

(c) the action taken by the Reserve Bank on those applications?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c). Required information is set out in the Statement.

Statement

The number of branches applied for by Pandyan Grama Bank, Bank of Tamil Nadu and Bank of Madura during the years 1979 and 1980 and the number of centres allowed by the Reserve Bank of India to each of these banks.

Name of the Bank	No. of branches applied for		No. of centres allowed by the Reserve Bank of India	
	1979	1980	1979	1980
Pandyan Grama Bank	13	36	13	31
Bank of Tamil Nadu	12	3	5	2
Bank of Madura	54	33	9	3

Release of Foreign Exchange to Senior Executives of Large Industrial Houses

4686. SHRI R. L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 623 on 21st November, 1980 regarding release of foreign exchange to senior executives of large industrial houses and state:

(a) whether the norms laid down by the R.B.I. for release of foreign exchange to senior executives of the large industrial houses for going abroad for attending course by way of tuition fee and stay stipulate that these Executives will serve in that Company for at least 5 years or so after return from training so that their knowledge could be utilised to the full advantage of the share-holder;

(b) if not, whether he proposes to consider the expediency of making such a provision; and

(c) whether he would collect information in respect of Executives who went to attend the courses arranged by the Harvard University in U.S.A. and Switzerland, as asked for in part (c) of the above question and lay it on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) No, Sir. The scheme contains no provision for obtaining an undertaking that the executives will serve the company for at least 5 years or any length of time after their return from training abroad.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Information, to the extent possible, is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Calculation of Interim Relief to Central Government Pensioners

4687. SHRI R. L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the interim relief granted to the Central Government pensioners is calculated on a formula related to cost of living index and, if so, whether the formula made applicable to pensioners is different from the one applicable to the serving Government personnel;

(b) whether a large number of representations from the pensioners Organisations have been made to Government against such a discrimination considering that the rising cost of liv-