

Increase/decrease in exports of tea in 1980 in relation to tea export during 1975 to 1979 are given below:—

Year	Tea Exports M.Kgs.	Increase(+)/Decrease (—) in 1980 over the performance during the previous five years quantity in M.Kgs.	Percentage variation
1980 (Provisional)	224.49
1979	199.63	(+)24.86	(+)(12.45
1978	176.05	(+)48.44	(+)(27.51
1977	229.64	(—) 515	(—)2.24
1976	233.61	(—) 9.12	(—)3.91
1975	218.13	(+) 6.36	(+) 2.91

Mechanisation in Punjab and Sind Bank

4414. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) is it true that Punjab and Sind Bank has been resorting to large scale mechanisation in recent past;

(b) if so, which of their offices have been mechanised;

(c) what is the cadre-wise strength of staff of these mechanised offices as on 30th December, 1978 and 31st December, 1980; and

(d) how much expense_s have been incurred on computerisation during this period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b). The Bank has reported that it has mechanised in the recent past only two Cells in their Head Office, namely, the Reconciliation of Inter-Branch Accounts' and 'Accounting Entries' Cells.

(c) The cadre-wise strength of the mechanised offices as on 30th Decem-

ber, 1978 and 31st December, 1980 was as under:—

As on	Officers	Clerks	Sub-staff
30-12-1978	109	15	8
31-12-1980	83	18	7

(d) The details of expenses incurred on computerisation are as under:—

As on	Expenses incurred on computerisation
	(Rs. in lakhs)
December, 1978	Nil
December, 1979	6.86
December, 1980	12.02 (including 6.86 for the year 1979)

Employees in each category in Rourkela Steel Plant

4415. SHRI NITYANANDA MISHRA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of employees in each category in Rourkela Steel Plant;

(b) whether recruitment rules for all categories of employees have been framed;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of the posts for which recruitment rules have not been followed and reasons thereof; and

(e) of the total employees in each category, how many are from the State of Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Manpower position in Rourkela Steel Plant as on 31-1-1981 is as under:—

Category	Number of employees
(i) Unskilled	5218
(ii) Semi-skilled	5084
(iii) Skilled	14000
(iv) High skilled	7006
(v) Non-technical	3992
(vi) Executives	2574
TOTAL	37874

(b) and (c). The recruitment rules for all categories of employees have been framed, details of which are as follows:

Non-Executives:

Recruitment is done in accordance with the Employment Exchange (Compulsory) Notification of Vacancies Act, 1959 and rules framed thereunder and instructions received from Bureau of Public Enterprises from time to time. As per the directives of Bureau of Public Enterprises, posts carrying pay scales maximum of which does not exceed Rs. 800/- per month are filled through the local Employment Exchange. Though the

Government directive indicates that only posts carrying pay upto Rs. 800/- per month should be notified to the Employment Exchange, in practice the vacancies are notified even in those non-executive posts which carry pay scales maximum of which exceeds Rs. 800/- per month. It is only when the Employment Exchange gives non-availability certificate, the posts are advertised. Further, in all Selection Boards for non-executive posts, the Additional District Magistrate, Rourkela, or his representative is associated. Further the Govt. directives regarding reservation of posts in respect of candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Ex-Servicemen and dependent of those killed in action are also being observed.

Executive:

As per the rules for recruitment to executive posts not less than 50 per cent of the vacancies in the initial executive grade occurring during a calendar year are filled up by direct recruitment, the remaining vacancies being reserved for promotion from lower grades.

Recruitment to lowest cadre of executive posts such as Graduate Engineer Trainees/Executive Trainees/Finance Executives is done centrally by the Steel Authority of India Limited New Delhi. These recruitments are made by SAIL Corporate Office to meet the requirements of all the units/plants under SAIL on an all India basis and through advertisement in national papers. Selection is made on the basis of merit. Recruitment of eminent sportsmen is also sometimes done.

Post for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are reserved as per Government of India directive.

On rare occasions, Rourkela Steel Plant has to resort to recruitment of candidates directly for executive posts and in such circumstances the posts are advertised on an all India basis. simultaneously intimation is also

sent to the local Employment Exchange with a copy to the Director of Employment Exchange, Orissa. The candidates sponsored by Employment Exchanges are considered alongwith others.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Statistics of employment by place of birth or residence are not maintained by the Steel Plants.

Ban on export of Sugar

4416. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have decided to ban sugar exports from February 21, 1981;

(b) if so, the reasons for the decision; and

(c) whether the subsidy paid for the sugar export is proposed to be utilised for the benefit of the consumers so that sugar can be sold at lower rate in the domestic market; and if not, the reason thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The ban was imposed on the basis of domestic constraints.

(c) Export of sugar is undertaken by STC, the canalising agency on Government Account and therefore, STC is reimbursed only the actual losses in exports, if any.

Grant of relief to pensioners retired prior to 1973

4417. SHRI HIRA LAL R PARMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have accepted the recom-

mendations of the Third Pay Commission for grant of relief to all pensioners who retired prior to 1st January, 1973 wherever there was a 16 point rise in the 12-monthly average of the All India Working Class Consumer Price Index (1980=100);

(b) whether it is also a fact that this relief has not been granted to such retired persons twice during the current financial year simultaneously with grant of additional D.A. to serving employees of Government; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) Central Government employees who retired before 1-1-73 were outside the purview of recommendations of Third Pay Commission. The Commission recommended payment of dearness relief to future pensioners, at the rate of 5 per cent of the pension, subject to a minimum of Rs. 5 and a maximum of Rs. 25, for every 16-point rise in the 12-monthly average of the index. However, Government allowed relief at this rate to all pensioners irrespective of the date of retirement. In addition, the Government allowed ad hoc relief ranging from Rs. 15 to Rs. 35 with effect from 1-1-73 to those who retired before that date.

(b) Instalments of relief to pensioners in accordance with the formula mentioned above have been sanctioned to pensioners with effect from the dates on which they fell due during the current financial year. Further, as announced by the Finance Minister in his last Budget Speech, dearness relief to pensioners will in future be paid at the rate of 2.5 per cent of pension for every 8-point rise in the consumer price index, subject to a certain minimum and a maximum instead of 5 per cent for every 16-point rise.

(c) Does not arise.