

Units (EOU) under zero custom duty scheme under EPCG. (iv) Additional entitlement of 5% SIL (Special Import Licence) to units having Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP). (v) Introduction of a scheme for subsidising interest on bank loans upto a maximum of 7% of interest over and above a base rate of 7% for modernisation and upgradation of processing plants besides providing capital subsidy. (vi) Necessary training programmes have been arranged for the processing industry in HACCP and good manufacturing practices (GMP) (vii) Technical and financial assistance is being extended to the aquaculture farmers to take up disease free sustainable aquaculture.

A target of US\$ 1330 Million has been fixed for the export of fish and fishery products from India for the year 1998-99; whereas targets for the year 2000 and 2001 are yet to be set.

Steel Plant by MMTC in Orissa

3358. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred Question No. 1034 dated December 4, 1998 and state:

(a) the arrangements made in the selection and appointments of employees in this particular unit in Orissa from Executive posts to class IV category of service;

(b) the total number of such employees now working there at present; and

(c) the number of these employees have been recruited through local employment exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) Sir, the selection is made in NINL by a Committee of Experts. The applications are invited through Press Advertisement, Employment Exchange and also by contacting various organisations like Steel Authority of India Limited, Tata Iron and Steel Company, Vizag Steel Plant, Nippon Denro Ispat Group, MECON etc.

(b) As on the 1st December, 1998 a total of 144 employees are working in NINL comprising 103 executive and 41 non-executive.

(c) Number of employees recruited through local employment exchanges is 8.

Non-Payment of benefits to Unit Holders of UTI

3359. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Unit Trust of India are often depriving the unit holders and investors of due benefits announced in their various investment schemes;

(b) whether the bonus amount payable under the MISR 1993 scheme in the third year of its operation has not been paid to a large number of unit holders;

(c) whether complaints received from the unit holders for non-payment of bonus under the said scheme have not been redressed for years by the UTI.

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to make an inquiry into such malpractices adopted by the UTI and take suitable action in order to safeguard the interests of investors of this financial institution; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) and (b) According to the Unit Trust of India (UTI), all the matured income schemes of UTI have given more than or equal to the indicative returns. There was no assurance given for a bonus at the end of the third year for MISB 1993 scheme (Monthly Income Unit Scheme with Bonus - 1993).

(c) to (e) Not applicable as no bonus was declared under the scheme.

[*Translation*]

Filling up of Vacancies in WCL

3360. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether only 21 candidates were selected recently for appointment to the post of mining supervisor 'Mining Sardar' by the Western Coalfields Ltd., Maharashtra whereas there are about 80 vacancies in all;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the works of company have been obstructed due to not filling up the above vacancies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which remaining posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) and (b) As reported by Coal India Ltd., as against around 100 vacancies of mining personnel, 50 local candidates, i.e. 33 from Maharashtra & 17 from Madhya Pradesh, were appointed by the management of Western Coalfields Limited. Some mining sardars are expected to join Western Coalfields Limited on transfer from Eastern Coalfields Limited and decision on appointment against remaining vacancies, if any, will be taken subsequently.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to (c) above.

(e) Remaining vacancies are likely to be filled up shortly first by transfer from ECL & then from the select panel.

[English]

Fraud in Vijaya Bank

3361. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the CBI has investigated a Rs. 117 crore fraud in Vijaya Bank and filed a case against the ex-Chairman;

(b) if so, the details of the CBI case and the present status thereof; and

(c) the number of cases of banking norms violations that came to light in the last three years and the action taken thereon, case-wise and bank-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) and (b) Vijaya Bank has reported that certain irregularities were observed by the bank relating to advances granted by the bank of M/s. P.J. Pipes and Vessels Pvt Ltd. (PJPVL). The internal investigation by the bank revealed lapses on the part of the officials of the bank and also diversion of the funds by the borrowing company. Based on the findings the bank had filed a suit against the company in May, 1996 claiming Rs. 117.07 crores. The matter was referred to Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in August, 1995 with the request to register a regular case for further investigation

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) at the instance of Government of India also conducted a detailed scrutiny of the account and the report of the RBI was sent to the CBI by the Government with the request to register the case and investigate the case thoroughly. The CBI has since registered a case against two former whole time directors of the bank and also three directors of the company.

(c) The RBI does not compile data of cases of violation of banking norms in public sector banks. Violation of banking norms could be either of a substantive or a procedural nature and having regard to the large number of bank branches and the number of transactions that take place in each branch, such data is not compiled.

[Translation]

Reappointment in IFCI

3362. SHRI JOGENDRA KAWADE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some retired officers of the Industrial Finance Corporation of India Ltd. who have completed sixty years of age have been re-employed on contract basis in the subsidiaries of the Corporation like Management Development Institute, Gurgaon, Labour Development Institute, Jaipur and Tourism Finance Corporation Ltd. of India;

(b) if so, the names of the re-employed officers and the reasons for their re-employment;

(c) whether re-employing the retired officers on contract basis has only adverse impact on the future promotion of rest of the employees and increase in unemployment; and

(d) if so, the justification behind re-employment of such officers?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Industrial Finance Corporation of India Ltd. (IFCI) has reported that there are no Officers of the Industrial Finance Corporation of India who have completed 60 years of age and have been re-employed on contract basis in the Subsidiaries or the Organisations promoted by the Corporation. Management Development Institute (MDI), Institute of Labour Development (ILD), Tourism Finance Corporation of India Ltd. (TFCI), are however not the subsidiaries of IFCI Ltd., but promoted by IFCI Ltd. However some organisations promoted by IFCI Ltd. have at their discretion, based on their