

ministerial Group. Besides clearance of outstanding arrears pertaining to Badarpur TPS is pressed with the relevant authorities.

(English)

Expansion of Services by Insurance Sector

*413. SHRI SURESH KALMADI :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY .

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have proposed two new schemes in the Insurance sector aimed at benefitting middle classes and the poor;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the details of the proposal being considered for revamping of General Insurance Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) An announcement regarding introduction of two new schemes viz. 'Jeevan Suraksha' by LIC and 'Jan Arogya' by GIC was made in the Budget speech for 1996-97. In pursuance of that announcement, 'Jan Arogya' has been introduced w.e.f. 12th August, 1996 while 'Jeevan Suraksha' has been introduced w.e.f. 15th August, 1996.

The salient features of the two Schemes are as under

Jeevan Suraksha :

The Scheme is intended to help individuals to provide for retirement income by facilitating saving during their working career. On survival of the life assured to the vesting age and subject to the payment of all the premiums during the premium paying term, a normal pension during the life time of the life assured or commutation of 25% of the normal pension for a lumpsum and a balance of 75% of the normal pension will be payable during the life time of the life assured. In the event of death of the life assured during the period of saving, the surviving spouse will be entitled to 50% pension which the assured would have been entitled to, had he paid all premiums and survived upto the vesting age. The minimum age at entry will be 30 years and the maximum age at entry will be 60 years.

Jan Arogya :

The Scheme is primarily meant for the larger segment of the population who can not afford the high

cost of medical treatment. The limit of cover per person is Rs. 5,000/- per annum. The premium for an adult individual is Rs. 70/- upto 45 years of age.

Persons beyond 45 years and upto 70 years can also be covered with slightly higher premium. A family of four comprising husband, wife and two children below the age of 25 can be covered for Rs. 5,000/- per head by paying annually a sum of Rs. 240/- only. The cover provides for reimbursement of medical expenses incurred by an individual towards hospitalisation/domiciliary hospitalisation for any illness, injury or disease contracted or sustained during the period of insurance.

(c) The common Minimum Programme (CMP) of the Government envisages restructuring of insurance industry in the light of the experience gained in the working of the banking sector. The Interim Insurance Regulatory Authority set up by the Government has been entrusted with the task of dealing with all matters relating to promotion and orderly growth of the insurance market and proposing comprehensive legislation for this purpose.

Quality Silk Centre

*414. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :
DR. T. SUBBARAM REDDY .

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, West Bengal and Jammu and Kashmir have been asked to take up time-bound programme for the setting up of quality silk centres in the areas having large concentration of silk farmers and reelers;

(b) if so, how many States have so far decided to modernise its units;

(c) whether any Central assistance has been provided to these States in the regard; and

(d) if so, the extent of assistance provided?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) : (a) to (d) The States of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, West Bengal and Jammu & Kashmir, which are the implementing agencies of the National Sericultural Project in sericulturally traditional States, propose to take up modernisation programmes for strengthening of infrastructure for quality upgradation.

The above programmes are proposed to be taken

up by the concerned States themselves under their respective components of World Bank/Swiss assisted National Sericulture Project.

Under the National Sericulture Project, against the approved costs, the cumulative expenditure since inception upto March, 1996 is as follows :

(Rs. in Crores)

State	Project Costs	Actual Expenditure
Karnataka	88.64	62.05
Tamil Nadu	55.66	40.00
West Bengal	38.26	18.64
Jammu & Kashmir	21.36	12.84
Andhra Pradesh	48.48	40.35
CSB	331.30	236.88
Total	583.70	410.76

Losses in Hindustan Paper Corporation

*415 SHRI P.C. THOMAS :
SHRI NAND KUMAR SINGH CHAUHAN :

Will the minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether units of Hindustan Paper Corporation are running at losses;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether huge quantities of paper produced by the various units of Hindustan Paper Corporation are lying in godowns unsold;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the price and stock of such paper, unit-wise; and

(e) the steps taken to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On account of locational disadvantages and lack of infrastructural facilities, very high interest burden due to cost overrun etc. have led to loss although operating profits have increased in past. However, loss in 95-96 came down substantially from the previous year and capacity utilisation is increasing.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. Due to depressed market condition, competition from other medium size mills enjoying excise rebate, lack of institutional orders, freight and transport disadvantages due to location of the units in North-East. Nagaon Paper Mill and Cachar Paper Mill

are holding stocks of 12603 MT and 12046 MT respectively in their godowns. The average price of paper is Rs. 28000 per MT. Several steps have been taken to step up efforts to improve marketing. Besides production of value added paper, price reduction for bulk purchases; Govt. of India Departments/Ministries. State Governments have been requested to extend support and patronage.

Judicial Pay Commission

*416 SHRI SAMY V ALAGIRI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state,

(a) whether the Judicial pay Commission has completed its study;

(b) if so, the details of the main recommendations made by it, and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay and the time by which it is likely to be submitted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D KHALAP) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) The First National Judicial Pay Commission has been notified vide Resolution dated 21.3.96. As per the said Resolution, the Commission is to finalise its recommendations as soon as feasible and to forward its report to the State Government/Union Territory Administrations. The Chairman, Member and Member Secretary of the Commission have since assumed the charge of their offices.

Sampling of Coal

*417. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DALIPSINH GAEKWAD :
SHRI SANAT MEHTA :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Coal India Ltd. propose to reintroduce the earlier practice of joint sampling of coal at power station end;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any dispute between Coal India Ltd. and Gujarat Electricity Board regarding receipt of coal ;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the amounts