

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) to (c) Two foreign investment proposals in private coal mining companies for undertaking mining operations for captive consumption, were received in the Ministry of Coal. In the first case, foreign investment of Rs. 446.51 crores in Central India Coal Company Limited (CICCO), a company promoted by the Ispat Group, equivalent to 71.77% of the equity of CICCO by the Overseas Associates of Ispat Group, Non-resident Indian and other foreign companies was cleared by the FIPB in July 1996.

In the second case a foreign investment proposal amounting to Rs. 19.907 crores from the International Finance Corporation, Washington, equivalent to 10% of the equity of Integrated Coal Mining Private Company Limited (ICMPCL), a company promoted by the Calcutta Electricity Supply Corporation was submitted by ICMPCL to FIPB in May 1998. The FIPB decision in the case has not been received in the Ministry of Coal.

(d) No foreign company has so far started functioning in coal sector.

Discretionary Quota of Ministers

3613. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the Ministry-wise discretionary quota of Ministers at present;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase this quota; and

(c) if so, the Ministry-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Taxation of Services

3614. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY :
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposals from various States for allowing them the right of taxation on services;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with earmarking the categories of services between Centre and the States; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) The Government has received representations from the States of Tamil Nadu and West Bengal for allowing the States the right to levy tax on services. There is no proposal under consideration at present for allowing the States to levy tax on services.

Extension of Service in PSUs

3615. PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has issued instructions to all Public Sector Undertakings about non-extension of services of Chief Executives beyond 60 years of age on the lines of Government Notification issued by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pension on 13.5.98;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether permission/extension beyond 60 years has been given to any Chief Executive(s) of Public Sector Undertaking since January, 1998;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether his Ministry has also issued instructions to all PSUs regarding upper age limit for nomination of Members on the Board of PSUs; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Income Tax Dues

3616. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is Rs. 42947 crores due to be realised by the Income Tax department upto March 31, 1998;

(b) if so, the reasons for the dues to accumulate and the steps taken to expeditiously realising the same;