

- (5) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-218/91]

Annual Report of and Review on the working of National Industries Corporation Ltd, New Delhi, for 1989-90 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(a) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the National Small Industries Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1989-90.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Small Industries Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1989-90 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-219/91]

(b) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Integrated Development Corporation Limited, Port Blair, for the year 1988-89.

(ii) Annual Report of the Andaman and Nicobar

Islands Integrated Development Corporation Limited, Port Blair, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-220/91]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Federation of Industrial Co-operatives Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Federation of Industrial Co-operatives Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89.

- (3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-221/91]

Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) under article 151(1) of the Constitution:—

- (1) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India—Union Government (No. 1 of 1990),—Commercial—Introduction.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-222/91]

- (2) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India—

Union Government (No. 5 of 1990)—Commercial—Resume of the Company Auditors' Reports and comments on Accounts of Government Companies.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT—223/91]

(3) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India—Union Government (No. 7 of 1990)—Commercial—Audit Observations on Individual Topics.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 224/91]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri P.A. Sangma, to make a statement.

13.06 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Increase in the Rates of Royalty on Coal

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): Sir, Some Hon'ble Members had raised the subject of increase in the rates of royalty on coal in the House on 25-7-1991. In response I had made a statement in this House on 26-7-1991. I had informed the House that the various legal and financial issues concerning the increase of rates of royalty on coal were under examination of the Government and that a decision in the matter will be taken very shortly. Subsequently, on the same day I had also assured the House that a meeting of the Chief Ministers of Coal Producing States will be called within a week to discuss this subject.

Hon'ble Members are aware that till recently the coal producing States

were imposing very heavy cesses on coal. Most of these cesses have since been struck down except in case of Assam and West Bengal. The rates of royalty were not being revised due to these high cesses. Now that most of these cesses have been struck down, the rates of royalty which have remained the same since February, 1981 have to be revised.

The Government has since considered the matter and has agreed to enhance the rates of royalty on coal. The salient feature of this upward revision is that the rates are being revised so that the average rate will be approximately Rs. 70 per tonne. The details of the revision of the royalty on coal will be laid on the Table of the House.

The superior quality coals attract higher incidence of royalty both from the point of view of conservation and higher calorific value of these coals. The revised rates will come into effect from the date of their publication in the Official Gazette. The enhanced rates are not being made applicable as of now to the States of West Bengal and Assam for the reason that they are continuing to levy and collect cesses at such higher rates on coal. As soon as these heavy cesses in these two States are withdrawn or set aside the new rates will be made applicable to them also.

I had announced in this House earlier that I will call a meeting of the Chief Ministers of coal producing States within a week in order to discuss the subject of revision of royalty on coal. Now that the Government has taken a decision in this regard, it would not be necessary to call such a meeting of the Chief Ministers.

.....(Interruptions).....

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has said that as soon as these heavy cesses in West Bengal and Assam are withdrawn or set aside