

metal has increased exorbitantly consequently upon the lifting of price and distribution control;

(b) if so, the details of its impact on other industries utilising aluminium as an input; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to control the price increase of aluminium metal?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Increase in Taxes on Tourist Coaches

*710. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great difficulty to run the tourist coaches due to hike in taxes on tourist coaches by certain State Governments including Governments of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, whether the tourist operators and hotel industry have also been affected due to hike in petrol rates;

(c) if so, the extent Union Government are considering to assist these operators; and

(d) whether Union Government have taken any steps in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The travel trade has indicated such a difficulty in the matter. However, since the subject of motor vehicles taxation is included in the State List to the 7th

Schedule to the Constitution, it is for the State Government to take action in the matter.

[Translation]

Awarding of Contracts in Steel Plants

*711. SHRI HUKMDEO NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether contracts are awarded for supply of goods in public sector Steel Plants;

(b) if so, the names of the Plants and the contractors to whom contracts were awarded during the last three years and the value thereof;

(c) whether the norms and instructions prescribed in this regard were followed fully while awarding these contracts; and

(d) if not, the action proposed to be taken by Government against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (d). The number of contracts awarded by the public sector steel plants run into several thousands. Generally the prescribed procedures are followed by the steel plants and in case of irregularities, appropriate action is taken. The compilation of the information regarding names of contractor, value of contracts and deviation from prescribed procedures etc. asked for would involve considerable time and labour which may not be commensurate with the result achieved.

Assistance to Educated Unemployed Youths in Rajasthan

*712. SHRI GULABCHAND KATARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of educated unemployed youths benefited so far in Rajasthan under the Self-employment to Educated Unemployed Youth Scheme (SEEUY) and the total amount of money given to them so far for establishing their business;

(b) whether certain youths selected under the Scheme were denied loans by the banks; and

(c) if so, the number thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c). Under the Scheme for providing Self Employment to Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY), loans amounting to Rs. 130.29 crores have been sanctioned to 66941 persons in the State of Rajasthan since the commencement of the Scheme in the year 1983-84 and upto 1988-89. The report for the year 1989-90 has not yet become available.

The recommendations made by the District Industries Centres in each State for assistance under the Scheme are appraised by the banks and loans sanctioned to applicants by the banks and loans sanctioned to applicants other-wise found eligible under the Scheme provided their projects are considered technically feasible and financially viable. Complaints, if any, in this regard are looked into by the Government, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the banks concerned.

Pig Iron Demand In Foundry Units

*713. SHRI RAMDAS SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated demand of pig iron for foundry units in the country;

(b) whether these units are facing crisis due to the shortage of pig iron; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to tide over this crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) The total demand for pig iron as assessed by the Development Commissioner for Iron and Steel and the Joint Plant Committee (JPC) was 17.50 lakh tonnes for 1989-90. For the year 1990-91, the demand is assessed at 18.50 lakh tonnes.

(b) No, Sir. Import of pig iron was allowed to actual users, through Mineral and Metal Trading Corporation (MMTC).

(c) In order to meet the gap between demand and supply, imports of nearly 3 lakh tonnes of pig iron were arranged through MMTC in 1989-90. From March 1990, import of foundry grade pig iron has been placed under OGL for actual users.

[English]

Incidental Credit Facilities to Small and Marginal Farmers

*714. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal that incidental credit facilities should be raised upto 50 per cent under a time bound programme in favour of small and marginal farmers as also landless workers and artisans; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b). Presumably, the Hon'ble Member desires to know whether the banks'