

ist literature and posters, production of films and audio-visuals and publicity through Press, Television, and other promotional activities such as holding of seminars/conferences, India Evenings, etc. the records for which are not centrally compiled. In view of this and the multiplicity of the agencies—both Government and private spread all over India and overseas, it is not possible to give details of jobs undertaken by each individual agency.

(c) and (d). No Sir, in view of the area of operations of multiplicity of disciplines, it is not possible to route the entire publicity efforts through any single agency.

(e) and (f). Consequent upon a decision of the group of Secretaries on 14-10-85 the printing of literature and posters, etc. is being assigned to ITDC and other agencies empaneled with the Department on the basis of tenders and quotations.

TV Transmitter at Stok, Leh

7477. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction work of T.V. transmitter at Stock village in Leh which was started last year has been suspended;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) when the work is likely to be resumed?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (c). After construction of an approach road to the site, the civil works remained suspended during the winter season due to inclement weather conditions in the area. The recommencement of the works later met with resistance from a section of

the local population. The completion of the civil work is, therefore, possible only after this difficulty is resolved.

[Translation]

Recovery of Bank Loans

7478. KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to waive agricultural loans of farmers as announced earlier;

(b) whether recoveries by banks are governed by financial discipline regarding seasonal non-overdue etc. prescribed by District Cooperative banks, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI);

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the lending policy fixed by Government so that farmers' next crops are not affected thereby?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF THE FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Seasonal agricultural operation loans are advanced normally to non-defaulting members of the Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies on the condition that the borrower should repay the same on due date i.e. either by the end of February or end of May for Kharif and Rabi crops, respectively. Further the Central Cooperative Banks (CCBs) are expected to recover 30% of the total demand or 40% of the Kharif demand to be eligible for fresh borrowing from National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) after 1st April or 40% of the total demand by end of June to be eligible to operate on the credit limit sanc-

tioned from 1st July. NABARD has, however, relaxed these conditions upto 30th June 1990 for financing current Kharif season. In order to ensure adequate flow of credit for ensuing 1990 Kharif season, NABARD has given some relaxations in regard to sanction and operation of the credit limits sanctioned to State Cooperative Banks (SCBs) viz.

(i) the seasonality discipline has been dispensed with;

(ii) maintenance of non-overdue cover during the year 1989-90 has been relaxed for draws on the credit limit sanctioned to CCBs;

(iii) condoning defaults by SCBs in the repayment of loans;

(iv) the condition that the SCB and CCBs would have to maintain 75% of the stipulated minimum involvement on a weekly basis would be waived; and

(v) sanction of additional limits would be considered. These relaxations would help the cooperative banks to meet the credit demand for 1990 Kharif operations

Manganese Ore India Ltd. at Bhandara

7479. DR. KHUSHAL PARASHRAM BOPCHE: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether about 6000 piece rated labourers work in the mines of Manganese Ore (India) Limited at Bhandara/Nagpur (Maharashtra) and Balaghat (Madhya Pradesh) whose monthly salary on the basis of 26 days comes to about Rs 500-600 only;

(b) whether these labourers are not covered under the orders issued by Union Government and the Supreme Court from time to time under the Minimum Wages Act;

(c) whether Government propose to abandon this piece rated work system in the interest of these workers;

(d) the difference between the minimum salaries of piece rated workers and the regular workers in the same category;

(e) whether Government propose to end this difference; and

(f) if so, the measure contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (f). As on 1.3.1990, Manganese Ore (India) Limited had about 5,700 piece rated workers on its rolls working at its mines situated in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. Piece rated workers are paid wages commensurate with the quantum of work done by them for which purpose unit rates have been fixed for different operations/activities at the mines. Presently the monthly average earning of the workers come to Rs. 975/-. These piece rated workers are covered by the Minimum Wages Act and other statutes as applicable to Manganese Mine Workers from time to time. By improving mining conditions, the average wage of piece-rated workers has increased from Rs. 690 in 1987-88 to Rs. 975 in 1989-90.

[English]

Fiscal Concessions for Investors, Stock Exchanges

7480. SHRI B.N. REDDY:
SHRIMATI J. JAMUNA:
SHRI K.S. RAO:
SHRI T. BALA GOUD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: