

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: Certainly we are monitoring. We will evaluate.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: In respect of SEEUY, it is so happening that the bank manager is present during the process of selection of the beneficiary as well as the scheme. But, after the beneficiary is selected, the bank manager is raising objection and saying, that the scheme is not possible, though he is present in the initial stage. Will the Government take notice of this fact and issue instructions to all the banking institutions to ground these schemes because the bank managers are very much present in the initial processing stage?

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: We know that there are certain complaints. We have received certain complaints and we have taken a view and, therefore, we will certainly streamline the procedure within two months.

MR. SPEAKER: the Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

MMTC Assistance to Andhra Pradesh

*62. SHRI T. BALA GOUD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India has any plan to assist the Andhra Pradesh Mining/Mineral Corporation in the production and sale of barytes, granite, bauxite and other minerals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any negotiations are going on with the Andhra Pradesh Government in this regard and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) to (b). A statement is given below.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). MMTC has entered into an agreement with the Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation (APMDC) to assist them in the sale of barytes. Financial assistance by way of loans was extended by MMTC to APMDC for export production of Barytes to the extent of Rs. 2.32 crores since August, 1984 to February, 1988.

Further loans of Rs. 85 lakhs for mechanization of Barytes mines and Rs. 85 lakhs for development of Granite mines has been sought by APMDC.

D.A. Increase to Central Government Employees

*63. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the All India Consumer Price Index for industrial workers as on 30 June, 1989 (base 1960: 100);

(b) whether the Central Government Employees have become eligible for any more instalment of D.A. from 1st July, 1989; and

(c) if so, the percentage of increase which has fallen due and the time by which orders sanctioning the next instalment due will be issued and amount of increased D.A. paid to Central Government employees and pensioners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) to (c). As per the revised Dearness Allowance formula based on the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission, compensation for price rise has to be paid to Central Government employees twice a year on the basis of percentage increase in whole numbers in the twelve monthly average of the All India Consumer Price Index Numbers for Industrial Workers (General) (Base 1960=100) for the period ending June and December each year over the index average of 608, w.e.f. 1st July and 1st January respectively with the salary for September and March respectively. The Consumer Price Index Number for the period ending June, 1989 is likely to be available only in the first half of August. Revised rates of Dearness Allowance due to Central Government employees w.e.f. 1.7.1989 can be calculated only after receipt of Consumer Price Index Number for this period.

Use of Lalmasia Coal Field Farakka Railway Line for Passenger Traffic

*70. PROF. SALAHUDDIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to utilise the National Thermal Power Corporation Railway line from Lalmasia Coalfields (ECL) to Farakka for the purpose of passenger traffic; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Import of Books

*71. SHRI P.M. SAYEED:
SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 31st March, 1989 to Unstarred Question No. 4300 regarding import of books and state:—

(a) whether the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence has submitted any report on the outflow of foreign exchange on import of technical and medical books through open general licence:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by Government thereon; and

(d) the number of cases in which illegal practices have been detected and the amount of foreign exchange siphoned as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA): (a) and (b). Directorate of Revenue Intelligence has reported that certain unscrupulous importers are importing books declared as educational literature, but having no commercial value, at over-invoiced prices in the names of fictitious firms; the intention being to remit foreign exchange out of India through legal channels.

(c). The Customs authorities have been alerted. The persons found involved in such activities are penalised in departmental adjudication and are also prosecuted in Courts of law in suitable cases. They are also detained under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974, if considered necessary.