(a) whether British steel experts have suggested plans for the modernisation of Durgapur Steel Plant;

(b) if so, what are the details of the report submitted;

(c) whether these suggestions have been considered; and

(d) when will these suggestions be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The principal aims of the study conducted by the British Steel Corporation (Overseas Services) (BSC—OS) were:

(i) an assessment of current operations and condition of the existing plant and making recommendations for short-term improvements, including changes in operating practices and minor plant modifications; and

(ii) technical and economic evaluation of capital development options for the modernisation and enhancement of DSP to meet medium and long-term objectives.

In their study, the capacity of the steel melting shop at DSP in its present condition has been assessed at 1.15 million tonnes per year of rollable ingots. This has been identified as the base case level of output. In the opinion of BSC (OS), some reconditioning and replacement of existing equipment will be necessary within the next few years even to sustain the base case level output.

The alternative options for increasing the output of DSP have been identified as follows:—

(i) refurnishing and enhancement of the plant to maximise production potential, but without installing any new main process plant. This is referred to as the Enhanced Base Case; and

(ii) modernisation and expansion of production capacity by the addition of new main process plant to balance the overall flowsheet. This is referred to as the developed case.

The ultimate achieveable capacity under the Enhanced Base Case and the Developed Case has been assessed by BSC(OS) as 1.44 MT of rollable ingots per year and 2 MT of liquid steel per year, respectively.

The final stage of development is proposed to be achieved in two phases. The liquid steel production and investment in the first phase have been estimated at 1.56 MT and Rs. 596.2 crores respectively. The final capacity of 2.0 MT will result in the second phase with an additional investment of Rs. 491.1 crores. The phasing has essentially been contemplated with a view to spreading the expenditure and, techno-economically, the first phase cannot be adopted as an independent option.

(c) and (d). SAIL is currently engaged in an in-depth examination of the report.

Marine Products Industry

370. SHRI MANMOHAN TUDU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state whether Government have a proposal for putting the marine products industry on asstable footing during 1981-82?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN): Yes, Sir. Besides the verious schemes which are being implemented by the Marine Products Export Development Authority for development of our marine products exports, Government have recently taken measures like liberalising the policy regarding export of pomfrets, increasing cash compensatory support on export of canned shrimp, declaration of a new policy for chartering of foreign vessels for deep see fishing and sending a sales-*cum*-study team to South-East Asian countries to diversify our export markets and product range. Government have also set up a Task Force on marine products to suggest measures for development of the marine products industry.

Family Pension Scheme for Central Government Employees

*371. SHRI CHANDRA PAL SHAILANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the date when Family Pension Scheme was introduced for Central Government employees and the salient features thereof;

(b) the rates of Family Pension Scheme for various categories of employees;

(c) whether in view of the continuous rising cost of living Government propose making upward revision in the rates of Family Pension Scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) the date when Family Pension Scheme was Introduced for Central Government employees and the salient features thereof;

(b) the rates of Family Pension Scheme for various categories of employees;

The family Pension Scheme was introduced with effect from 1-1-1964 Its salient features were as follows:

(i) The Scheme was contributory in nature and every Government servant was required to contribute an amount equal to his two months emoluments or Rs. 5000, whichever was less. This contribution was to be deducted from the Death-*cum*-Retirement Gratuity or any other gratuity payable.

Foot Note: *Before the Family Pension Scheme, 1964, came into force, the liberalised Pension Rules, 1950, as amended from time to time, provided for a family pension on a limited basis. Under these Rules, family pension, not exceeding half the superannuation pension or Rs. 150/-, whichever was less, was payable to the family of a Government servant dying in harness after at least 20 years service. The family pension was admissible for a maximum of 10 years but limited to 5 years from the date on which the Government servant would have retired on superannuation. If the Government servant died after retirement the family pension was payable only for the unexpired portion of the above five years period. Those widows who were in receipt of family pension under these rules on 31-12-1963 were allowed to draw it at half the rate for life or re-marriage, whichever was earlier.

(ii) The Family Pension was admissible to widow/widower for life or till re-marriage and thereafter to minor sons upto the age of 16 and minor daughters upto the age of 21 or marriage, whichever was earlier.

(iii) The rate of Family Pension was as follows:

Pay of Govt. Servant	Monthly Family Pension
Rs. 800/- and above	12% of pay subject to a minimum of Rs. 150/-.
Rs. 200/- and above and below Rs. 800/- .	15% of pay subject to a maximum of Rs. 96- and a minimum of Rs. 60/-.
Below Rs. 200/-	30% of pay subject to a minimum of Rs 25/-.