

Increase in stipend to trainees in Industrial Training Institutes ..

*903. SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to increase stipend for the trainees in Industrial Training Institutions; and

(b) if so, when the decision is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI-MATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. A proposal to increase the Stipend from Rs. 25 P.M. to Rs. 40 P.M. for the trainees in the Industrial Training Institutes in the Union Territories and the Model Training Institutes attached to the Central Training Institutes for Instructors is under consideration of the Government. The proposal also includes increasing the percentage of trainees entitled to stipend from 33-1/3 per cent to 50 per cent of the trainees on the roll.

(b) The decision accepting the above proposal has already been taken recently and the orders are under issue.

Recruitment of Officers in Coast Guards

*904. SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coast Guards form a part of the Indian Navy;

(b) if not, how the officers and men of the Coast Guards are selected and recruited; and

(c) whether in the matter of recruitment and appointment any discrimination is made between an Engineer from IIT and an Engineer from any other recognised Engineering College of the country, particularly those located in Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal and North-East?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The entry of officers and men into Coast Guard is regulated as follows:—

(a) By borrowing on deputation from the Defence Services.

(b) By permanent absorption of deputationists.

(c) By re-employment of retired/released officers from the Defence Services.

(d) By direct entry on all-India basis. Selection for categories (a) to (c) is based on previous experience and record of service of the candidates. As regards category (d), applications are invited on all India basis. Eligible candidates have to appear before a Coast Guard Selection Board for preliminary and final interview. Subject to medical fitness and number of vacancies available, successful candidates are enrolled in the Coast Guard regular cadre.

(c) No, Sir.

Rejection of Application for Import of Aluminium Extrusion Presses

*905. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some import applications received from certain capitalists for aluminium extrusion presses have been rejected by the Capital Goods Committee in consonance with the earlier decision of Government taken after having allowed imports of three big plants despite protest by indigenous manufacturers as well as M.Ps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): Under the 1978-79 Import Policy, aluminium extrusion presses were

under OGL and industrial units desiring to set up facilities for manufacture of aluminium extrusions were eligible for DGTD registration. Thus the import applications received from M/s. Karnataka Aluminium Ltd., M/s. Jindal Aluminium Ltd., and M/s. Mahavir Aluminium Ltd., were approved by the Government after taking the various aspects into consideration carefully and in detail and on the considered view being expressed by both the Department of Heavy Industry and the DGTD that it would be premature to stop imports of high capacity aluminium extrusion presses at this stage of development of both these industries, i.e. aluminium extrusion and machine manufacturing.

2. With effect from 18th February, 1980, units in the aluminium senis industry require licensing. All applicants for import of aluminium extrusion presses would first have to obtain an industrial licence or Letter of Intent. Four applications registered on 5-12-1980, 21-12-80, 12-1-1981 and 20-1-1981 have been rejected, since the applicants for imports of capital goods did not possess either an industrial licence or a letter of intent.

Price Rise of White Cement

*906. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of white cement has been increased;

(b) if so, the extent thereof stating the reasons for increasing the price of white cement; and

(c) its likely impact on the consumer as a whole?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) to (c) White cement is not a statutorily controlled commodity and as such price of this variety of cement is not fixed by Government. Consumption of

white cement being very limited, an increase in its price is not likely to have any serious impact on public as a whole.

Steps to Remove Regional Imbalances

*907. SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being proposed in the Sixth Five Year Plan to remove regional imbalances in the country;

(b) whether States have been advised to spend more from the Plan allocation provided by the Centre to remove regional imbalances; and

(c) the details of (a) and (b)?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND LABOUR (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) to (c) It has been recognised that as one of the methods of removing regional imbalances in the country, the Central Policies concerning resource transfers to the states will need to be suitably tailored to the benefit of the relatively backward state. One step taken in this direction is the introduction of the IATP formula in 1979 and the doubling of the segment of the backward states in the Gadgil Formula for allocation of Central assistance for State Plans. Another method of tackling the regional imbalances in the country is through some special intervention programmes in certain types of backward areas with specific problems, such as the Drought Prone Areas, the Desert Areas, the Hill Areas, with concentration of tribal population, and the North-Eastern Region.

For the above types of backward areas, Special Central Assistance is being provided to augment the State's own effort to develop them. There are also target group programmes like the IRD, the Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes, the National Rural Employment Programme and the Minimum Needs Programme which also greatly aid in removing regional imbalances in the country. Besides, these the prospective entrepreneurs in the industrially backward areas are