

against the Metal Scrap Trade Corporation (MSTC); and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government have received complaints against Metal Scrap Trade Corporation (MSTC) from ship breakers at Alang and Iron and Steel Scrap Association of India alleging favouritism and irregularities in distribution of scrap ships. The allegations relate to allotment of larger vessels to a few breaking units. Allotment of larger sized vessels combinedly to two units was tried towards the end of 84-85 due to limited availability of smaller vessels. However, the practice was abandoned by MSTC due to opposition from the Industry. The guidelines for 85-86 provide for allotment of larger sized vessels to individual ship breaking units with certain conditions with regard to adjustment of tonnage allotted in excess of the target fixed by MSTC for each ship breaking unit.

Criticism by Senior Economists regarding grant of D.A. to Central Government Employees

114. SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the practice of granting increases in dearness allowance to Central Government employees came in for severe criticism from the Senior Economists; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) While individual economists have been reported to have expressed views on the expansionary impact of Dearness Allowance increases, Government is not aware of severe criticism from the Senior Economists as such regarding the practice of granting dearness allowance

(b) The question does not arise.

Cancer Insurance Scheme

115. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

DR. H. P. SHARMA:

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new Cancer Insurance Scheme has been inaugurated by the Prime Minister;

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme; and

(c) what steps have been taken to popularise the scheme and with what response?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Cancer Medical Expenses Policy was inaugurated in Delhi by the Prime Minister on 11th July, 1985.

(b) The salient features of the Scheme are:—

- (1) The eligibility of the proposer to the Scheme is subject to membership of the Indian Cancer Society.
- (2) The insurance premium for the said Medical Expenses Policy is Rs. 100 per annum.
- (3) The total limit for medical expenses cover is Rs. 40,000 in the aggregate.
- (4) Other benefits available to the Insured as a member of the Indian Cancer Society, include (a) one free medical check up at a detection centre in the first year, (b) Check up at concessional rates in the subsequent years, (c) Access to literature on cancer, etc.
- (5) To begin with, the Scheme is restricted to 4 metropolitan since the Indian Cancer Society has no facilities in this behalf elsewhere in India. The Scheme

is to be extended to other centres by and by, depending upon the development of facilities at those places.

- (6) India is the third country in Asia to introduce such a Scheme to cover medical expenses in treating cancer.

(c) The innovative scheme was launched with advertisements in the leading newspapers on the 11th July, 1985. Publicity is being made through media to popularise the scheme. It will take time to assess the extent of response to the Scheme.

Robbery in the Panchsheel Enclave branch of New Bank of India

116. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN;
DR. H. P. SHARMA;
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR;

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that armed desperadoes struck on the Panchsheel Enclave branch (New Delhi) of the New Bank of India on July 10, 1985 and made away with a huge sum of money;

(b) if so, the extent of money involved and the details of the circumstances relating to this robbery; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to apprehend the culprits and with what result?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) New Bank of India has reported that three youngmen came to its Panchsheel Enclave Branch, New Delhi at about 12.40 P.M. on 10th July, 1985 and informed the chowkidar that they wanted to operate the locker. The youngman, who were all armed with revolvers, after threatening the staff, forced open two doors of two Cashiers' Cabins and decamped with Rs. 3,01,560.

(c) The bank had lodged an FIR with the police on 10-7-85. The bank has, however, reported that no arrest has so far been made by the police.

Profit/loss Account of Bharat Gold Mines Limited, Kolar

117. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

DR. SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA:

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what had been the profit/loss of the Bharat Gold Mines Limited, Kolar during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) how much gold has been produced during this period, year-wise;

(c) what has been the value of gold produced, year-wise;

(d) how many workers are employed presently in Kolar Gold Mines; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to explore new gold mines during the Seventh Plan period; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE):

(a) The loss incurred by Bharat Gold Mines Ltd., during the last three years, year-wise is given below:

Year	Loss in Rs. lakhs
1982-83	272.65
1983-84	569.14
1985-85	1066.00 (Provisional)

(b) and (c) Quantity and value of gold produced by BGML during the last three years, year-wise is given below:

Year	Quantity of Gold produced (in Kgs.)	Value of gold produced (Rs. in lakhs)
1982-83	1370	210.5
1983-84	1186	2017
1984-85	1091	1897