

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) As part of the intensification of anti-smuggling drive, the scheme of rewards and other incentives granted to informers and departmental officers engaged in anti-smuggling work was recently reviewed by the Government.

As a result of the review apart from further strengthening the anti-smuggling infrastructure, it was considered necessary to rationalise the reward policy. It has, accordingly, been decided to raise the reward eligibility of the informers and departmental officers alike from 10 per cent to 20 per cent of the value of contraband goods seized, with provision for grant of part of the rewards immediately after seizure. The other salient features of the new package of incentives is the creation of three Funds with amounts, ranging from 1 per cent to 5 per cent of the value of seized contraband goods, accruing to it to be used by the Government for the purposes of encouraging better performance, acquiring anti-smuggling equipment and providing a measure of security and amenities to the departmental officers engaged in anti-smuggling tasks and to the families of those who die or are injured in the course of anti-smuggling operations, etc.

Study regarding Organisational structure of NTC

395. SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been undertaken regarding organisational structure of the National Textile Corporation and also to assess the Manpower requirements of the Corporation;

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

(c) what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Study has been entrusted to a Consultant regarding organis-

ational structure and manpower requirements of National Textile Corporation Ltd. (Holding Company). The study includes determination of the role/function of NTC (Holding Company), streamlining the functions of various divisions as well.

(c) The report of the Consultant has not yet been received.

New Coke making technology

396. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new coke making technology known as 'Samantya Coke' has been developed and found suitable by the Coal India Limited and the Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b) On a request from M/s. Coke Consultancy allotment of Zero seam coal was made to their collaborators M/s. Auroma Coke Manufactures, subject to the condition that the firm should allow evaluation of the technology by an expert team from Coal India Limited/Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited. The Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited have informed that though no proper evaluation of technology could be undertaken in the absence of details regarding additives, but basically it could be ascertained that hard coke was really produced using zero seam coal. CEMDPIL have opined that the coke does strictly conform to the requirement of foundry coke, though, it may generally be acceptable in some other industries

Break-out in Bokaro Steel Plant

397. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Blast Furnace No. 4 of Bokaro Steel Plant had a

break-out last year causing great loss to the company;

(b) whether any enquiry/investigation was held to find out the reasons for break-out;

(c) if so, what were the reasons for the break-out and the result of the enquiry investigation; and

(d) whether any responsibility was fixed in this case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. There was a break-out in blast furnace No. 4 on September 11, 1984. This had caused a production loss of about 32,200 tonnes of hot metal.

(b) Yes, Sir. SAIL had set up an enquiry committee of five experts, one of whom was the Chief Soviet Expert (Specialist in Blast Furnaces).

(c) The enquiry committee came to the conclusion that air got in contact with the outer surface of the carbon blocks which are in direct contact with the hot metal and eroded the outer surface of these carbon blocks, thereby causing the break-out of hot metal.

(d) The enquiry committee could not pin point responsibility on any individual.

Suspension of Durgapur Steel Plant Official*

398. SHRI- RAMAKRISHNA MAZUMDER: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ten official* of Durgapur Steel Plant have been suspended recently; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Only two employees of Durgapur Steel Plant were suspended during the last six months. One person of the Plant Garage Department 1984 on charges

practices and the other person from the Blast Furnace (Mech.) Department was suspended on February 4, 1985 on charges of theft.

Irregularities in the Punjab and Sind Bank

399. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some time in August, 1984 certain matters concerning the Punjab and Sind Bank were referred to the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India by the Banking Division of the Ministry of Finance;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether an inspection of the bank's books made by a Reserve Bank team exposed certain irregularities like the appointment of architects and contractors for construction work without following proper procedure, paying them liberally and revising their rates upwards too often;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) what action Government have taken against the persons responsible for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) In the absence of specific details of the issues involved, it is not possible to identify the reference that Hon'ble Member has in mind.

(c) to (e) Presumably, the reference is to the report on the inspection of Punjab & Sind Bank carried out by the Reserve Bank of India with reference to its position as on 30th June, 1982 under the Annual Appraisal Scheme. In accordance with the provisions of the statutes governing the affairs of public sector banks, the inspection reports of the Reserve Bank of India are treated as confidential documents and as such their contents cannot be divulged,