

Persons working on daily wages in SAIL

1318. SHRI ROSHAN LAL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 475 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 17th June, 1980 and state:

(a) whether Government propose to consider the cases of the handicapped persons working on daily wages in the Unit office of the Steel Authority of India, New Delhi by giving the benefit of reservation of three per cent posts; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. All such cases will be considered by the Steel Authority of India Ltd. in accordance with the Government instructions on the subject.

(b) Does not arise.

Joint ventures by State Trading Corporation for exports

1319. SHRIMATI RODA MISTRY:

SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISO-DIA:

SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:

SHRIMATI HAMIDA HABIBULLAH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have advised the State Trading Corporation to go in for manufacturing through joint ventures with a view to widening the production base to exports; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) In tune with the new objectives adopted by STC at the instance of Government and with a view to strengthening and expanding the supply base and infrastructural facilities, the Corporation plans to create export capacity for its own exports, through participation in joint ventures by providing assistance in technology transfer, marketing and financial participation, if necessary. To begin with, the Corporation has identified processed foods, marine products and leather products as items for promoting capacity creation units.

Increase in employment costs and decrease in profits in public undertakings

1320. SHRI PILOO MODY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in some public undertakings relating to contract and construction works, transportation services and financial services, there has been a big increase in the average emoluments of the employees in 1978-79 as against those in 1977-78, while there has been a big decrease in the earnings of these undertakings in 1978-79 as compared to the previous year; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for this anomaly?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) In the case of contracts and construction group, transportation services and financial services, enterprises listed below have reported lower pre-tax profits in 1978-79 compared to substantially higher average emoluments in 1978-79 as compared to 1977-78:

Contracts and construction group:

1. Hindustan Steelworks Construction Ltd.
2. National Buildings Construction Corporation.

Transportation:

1. Indian Airlines
2. Mogul Line
3. Shipping Corporation of India

Financial Services:

1. Film Finance Corporation.

(b) Decreased profitability is attributable to several causes like higher costs of essential inputs (for example aviation fuel), delays in completion of the contractual assignments or the reduced demands for the products of the enterprises. The emoluments on the other hand register increases since these are linked to periodical wage settlements and rise in cost of living indices. The increased emoluments in one of the construction companies is attributable to segment of its staff being stationed outside India where emoluments understandably are higher.

Global tenders by SAIL for import of steel

1321. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:
SHRI ABDUL REHMAN
SHEIKH:

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

(a) the names of the foreign firms which participated in the global tenders by the Steel Authority of India Limited for import of steel into India during 1978, 1979 and 1980 (up to June, 1980);

(b) what were the prescribed conditions for qualifying as bidding firms;

(c) whether these firms were required to have local representatives/agents in India;

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

(e) the names of their representatives who were present at the opening of these tenders?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Foreign offices maintained by the State Trading Corporation

1322. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:
SHRI ABDUL REHMAN
SHEIKH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign offices maintained by the State Trading Corporation and the names of the countries where they are located;

(b) the annual budgets of these offices for 1977-78, 1978-79 and 1979-80;

(c) the annual turn-over of business of these offices with break-up of import and export;

(d) whether State Trading Corporation forms part of the Indian mission abroad; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) STC has 18 foreign offices. They are located in USA, UK, West Germany, France, USSR, GDR, Hungary, Kenya, Sri Lanka, Hongkong, Singapore, Australia, Bangladesh, Kuwait, Iraq-Tanzania, Japan and Saudi Arabia.