

Capital cost of Steel Plants in India

894. DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the capital cost of steel plants in India is the highest in the world; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Increase in price of metallurgical coal

895. DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Steel Authority of India has approved the proposal of the Bharat Coal Ltd. to increase price of metallurgical coal with retrospective effect from November 15, 1973; and

(b) if so, whether it is likely to have any cumulative effect on the current price of steel ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Steel Authority of India Ltd. has approved an increase in price of coking coal supplied by Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. to coal washeries and steel plants. There is no proposal at present to increase the selling price of steel products.

47th Meeting of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation

896. DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the recommendations and decision taken at the 47th meeting

of the Employee's State Insurance Corporation; and

(b) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) : (a) A statement indicating recommendations/decisions is enclosed.

(b) The recommendation for providing Central assistance to the Employees' State Insurance Corporation and raising the States' share of the cost of medical benefit is based on the recommendations of the Committee on Perspective Planning, which is already under consideration. Some recommendations/decisions are within the competence of the Corporation. Some others, which require approval of the Central Government, will be considered on receipt of a formal reference from the Employees' State Insurance Corporation.

Statement*Recommendations/decisions*

1. The Central Government should consider the question of providing Central assistance to the Employees' State Insurance Corporation. They should also take up with the State Governments the question of raising the State share of the cost of medical benefit from 1/8th to 1/4th.

2. The Annual Report on the activities of the Corporation for the year 1972-73 was adopted.

3. Eight non-official members of the Corporation were elected to represent the Corporation on the Standing Committee.

4. The question of increase of permanent disability and dependants pension to compensate for its depreciation through increase in the cost of living may be referred to the Actuary for examination.

5. The excess payment made to insured persons through mistake may be recovered in easy instalments, in case of genuine hardship.

6. The recommendations of Medical Benefit Council regarding provision of additional equipment in E. S. I. Hospitals, research in industrial medicine and hygiene, review of list of diseases for extended sickness benefit, provision of artificial appliances etc. were approved.

7. The Report of the General Purposes Sub-Committee on the working of E.S.I. Scheme in Tamil Nadu was adopted.

8. The D.G.H.S. has been asked to look into the question of purchase of commonly used drugs/medicines under the E.S.I.C. at centralised rate contract.

9. The scale of diet recommended by the National Nutrition Advisory Committee and the Medical Benefit Council, for the beneficiaries of E.S.I. Scheme who are admitted to the E.S.I. hospitals for inpatient treatment, was approved.

10. A capital construction reserve fund, for financing the construction of E.S.I. hospitals/buildings etc., may be set up, with 10% of the total revenue derived from contributions.

11. The limit of *per capita* expenditure on capital construction may be raised from Rs. 150 to Rs. 170.

12. Plans and estimates for additional hospitals/annexes may be sanctioned so as to provide upto 5 beds per thousand employees, as against the existing yardstick of 4 beds per thousand employees.

13. Delegation of certain powers from the Central Government to E.S.I.C./Standing Committee/Director General.

14. Certain changes in recruitment policy of the Corporation.

15. Withdrawal of medical posts in the E.S.I.C. from the Central Health Service and creation of a separate cadre of medical posts in the E.S.I. Corporation.

16. The Annual accounts of the Corporation for the year 1970-71, alongwith Andit Report, were approved and adopted

17. The Corporation's Revised Estimates for 1973-74 and Budget Estimates for 1974-75 were approved.

Demands of the Employees of the Mana Camp

897. SHRI N. H. KUMBHARE: Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Association of employees working in Mana Camp at Raipur in Madhya Pradesh have placed certain demands before Government;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation gave an assurance to the Association on June 14, 1973 that the demands put forth by the Association would be implemented; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) A deputation of the Association met the Deputy Minister Rehabilitation on 29th January 1974, when the position regarding their demands was discussed, as to the action taken and the demands under consideration.

इन्दौर में उद्योगों को लोहा और इस्पात की सप्लाई

898. श्री वीरेंद्र कुमार सखलेचा : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इन्दौर में उन उद्योगों के क्या नाम हैं जिन्हें 1973 के वर्ष में लोहा अथवा इस्पात उपलब्ध कराया गया था तथा वह कितनी मात्रा में उपलब्ध कराया गया था और प्रत्येक उक्त उद्योग ने कितनी मात्रा में रूढ़ी लोहा खरीदा था और विभिन्न प्रकार का कितना माल तैयार किया गया;