

(iv) A concerted and sustained drive for expeditious disposal of claims for compensation continues on the Railways.

(v) Quotation of competitive rates, where justified.]

MERGER OF EXPLORATING DIVISION OF INDIAN BUREAU OF MINES WITH GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA

*591. SHRI G. M. MIR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the members of the Programming Board who are responsible for co-ordinating the work of the Geological Survey of India and the Indian Bureau of Mines, had been consulted for merger of the Exploring Division of the Indian Bureau of Mines with the Geological Survey of India;

(b) if so, what are their views;

(c) what are the circumstances which led to the merger of the Division with Geological Survey of India; and

(d) whether Government have received any representation from the employees of Division against this merger, if so the details of the representation ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Geological Survey of India undertakes geological mapping and exploratory drilling with a view to making a preliminary assessment of mineral deposits. The Indian Bureau of Mines has been responsible for carrying out detailed investigations in the subsequent stages for proving the grade and extent of the deposits. Experience has shown that the division of prospecting work into two stages of preliminary and detailed investigation involves a certain amount of over lapping and delay. In order to ensure continuity of background knowledge, expertise and operational control and expedite investigation of mineral deposits, it is considered desirable to vest the responsibility for the entire work of prospecting in one organisation.

(d) The Government have not received any representation from the employees of the Division against the merger. The Indian Bureau of Mines Employee's Union had, however, sent a representation requesting that in the event of transfer of Prospecting, Drilling and Mining Divisions of the Indian Bureau of Mines to the Geological Survey of India, the following demands should be considered:—

- (i) that there will be no retrenchment;
- (ii) that seniority of the personnel to be transferred will be preserved;
- (iii) that pay of staff will be protected;
- (iv) that the office will not be shifted from Nagpur; and
- (v) that in case of transfer from one place to another, accommodation will be provided to the staff at the new places of posting.

ELIGIBILITY OF SPECIAL CLASS RAILWAY APPRENTICES FOR PROVIDENT FUND SCHEME

*598. SHRI JAGAT NARAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Special Class Railway apprentices of the 1956 batch are eligible for the Provident Fund Scheme;

(b) if so, whether the personal preference of each such Apprentice has been asked as to his choice between Provident Fund and Pension; and

(c) if not, whether the Pension Scheme is being forced on them, in spite of the assurances given to them to the contrary in the Conditions of Service advertised by the Union Public Service Commission ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

LINKING OF COAL MINES WITH WASHERIES AND STEEL PLANTS

599. SHRI JAGANNATH PRASAD: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government have finalised programme of linking mines with washeries

and steel plants so as to ensure adequate and smooth supplies of coking coal for steel production; and

(b) the steps being taken to meet the short fall, if any, in the washing capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY)

(a) and (b) The programme of linking coal mines with washeries and steel plants is not a static programme and is subject to review periodically in consultation with steel plants and coal producers. The washeries, existing, those under construction and planned, will provide about ninety percent of the requirements of clean coal as estimated at present. Proposals for covering the small deficit still left are under consideration.

PAY SCALE OF RAILWAY STENOGRAPHERS

*600. SHRI D. THENGARI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways now allow a higher start of Rs. 150 in scale of Rs. 130—300 to all the future entrants to the cadre of Railway stenographers;

(b) if so, whether the pay of serving stenographers has been re-fixed on point to point basis from the higher starting stage of Rs. 150 in scale of Rs. 130—300; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Only a higher initial start was granted and the pay of the serving employees drawing less than Rs. 150 was raised to Rs. 150. There was no revision of the scale and as such the question of refixation of pay of other serving employees did not arise.

†GRANTS GIVEN BY THE MINISTRY TO AUTONOMOUS BODIES

*447. SHRI R. K. BHUWALKA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the autonomous bodies to which his Ministry gives annual grants;

(b) whether his Ministry exercises some financial control over these autonomous bodies to ensure that the grants given to them are properly spent; and

(c) whether there is any system for assessment or review of their work periodically?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND SUPPLY (SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA): (a) A list showing the names of autonomous bodies to which the Ministry of Industry and Supply gives annual grants on a regular basis is placed on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The names of autonomous bodies which are given regular annual grants

- 1 The National Small Industries Corporation Ltd., New Delhi.
- 2 The Small Industries Extension Training Institute, Hyderabad
- 3 The National Design Institute, Ahmedabad.
- 4 The National Productivity Council, New Delhi.
- 5 The Indian Standards Institution, New Delhi
- 6 The Central Machine Tool Institute, Bangalore.
- 7 The Invention Promotion Board, New Delhi
- 8 The National Cooperative Union of India.

STATEMENT

The Board of Directors of the National Small Industries Corporation, the Governing Councils of the Small Industries Extension Training Institute, the National Design Institute, the National Productivity Council, the Central Machine Tool Institute and the Invention Promotion Board; and the Executive Council of the Indian Standards Institution, include representatives of the Ministry of Industry and Supply and the Ministry of Finance. This ensures that the activities of these bodies, with particular reference to their expenditure, is regulated in accordance with the purposes for which

†Postponed from the 25th November, 1965.