

(d) how far the economic growth of big industries in public sector would be affected in such condition?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Under the Public Procurement Policy for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSE), minimum share of 20% of total annual purchases of Central Ministries/ Departments/ PSUs has been reserved for procurement by them from MSEs. Out of 20% share of annual procurement from MSEs, a share of 4% (i.e. 20% out of 20%) has been reserved for procurement from MSEs owned by SC/ST entrepreneurs only.

(c) The benefit of public procurement policy is available only to the enterprises registered as MSE. Big industries would not be eligible to participate in the preferential procurement process of the Government Departments/ Ministries/ PSUs.

(d) Only the 20 per cent of total purchases by Central Government Ministries / Departments / Public Sector Undertakings are reserved from MSEs which is not expected to adversely effect big industries.

#### **Wages paid to contract workers of NALCO**

712. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees in NALCO working on regular roll along with the salary of lowest paid employee therein;

(b) whether it is a fact that the contract labourers are getting one fourth of the salary of regular employee doing the identical work and if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total number of contract labourers working in different units of NALCO, unit-wise; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that some of the contract labourers of NALCO have already worked for more than ten years continuously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) has informed that the total number of employees working on regular roll in company as on 31.10.2011 is 7760 and the lowest salary (Basic Pay and Dearness Allowance) paid to the employee is Rs. 15504/-per month.

(b) NALCO has adopted following wage rates for worker on contract basis:

(In Rs.)

Category of workers	Minimum rates of wages per day as declared by Central Govt. in respect of opencast (above ground) Mines	Additional element ensured by NALCO per day	Canteen subsidy per day	Total	Additional payment per day towards medical benefits where ESI coverage in not there	Additional payment per day for labourers engaged in mines
Unskilled workers	171	24	6	201	4.75% on amount in column (2+3)	15
Semiskilled workers	212	24	6	242	-do-	15
Skilled workers	256	24	6	286	-do-	15
Highskilled workers	297	24	6	327	-do-	15

(c) National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) has informed that the number of labourers engaged by various contractors working in various offices/installations, as on 31.10.2011, is as under :

Unit/Office	Smelter	CPP	Refinery	Mines	Port Facilities	Corporate & other offices *	Total
Number of contract labourers	4609	2258	3542	440	74	294	11217

\* Other offices- Marketing offices and Regional offices

(d) NALCO is not in a position to comment regarding continuation of work by any labour of the contractors for more than ten years since the company is awarding the work to the Contractors and they are getting the work done by their labourers. NALCO does not have any control over the same.

#### Optimum exploitation of mineral resources

†713. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BALAPTE :

SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government has urged the State Governments for reassessment of the reserved mineral deposits and to ensure optimum exploitation of minerals;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the States in this regard;

(c) whether some new companies have shown interest in mining sector and sought the mining leases;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL) : (a) and (b) In exercise of the powers under Rule 27(3) of the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960, the Central

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.