

profit and loss account indicates a working loss of about Rs. 1.75 crores during 1967-68. The loss during the financial year 1968-69 will be very much less if there is an improvement in the market for coke.

(b) The phased transfer of staff from Calcutta to Durgapur will have little impact on the total housing position. Some expenses will have to be incurred on the travel of Managing Director which is inevitable in the discharge of his duties.

(c) There is no post of Director of Personnel and the post of Chief Stores Officer is in existence from 1966. The creation of posts of Senior Administrative Officer and Chief Marketing/Sales Officer is for effecting better management.

APPOINTMENTS OF CONSULTANTS BY DURGAPUR PROJECTS LTD.

1273. SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of consultants have been appointed by the Durgapur Projects Limited;

(b) if so, the total cost involved in these appointments;

(c) whether Kuljian Corporation was appointed as consultant for erection of the sixth Unit of Project Power Plant and they claimed Rs. 8.7 lakhs as consultation fee;

(d) whether erection of the sixth Unit was abandoned ultimately; and

(e) if so, the reasons for the abandonment of the same ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

PROMOTION IN F.T.A. OFFICE, ETC.

1274. SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of staff promoted on seniority-cum-suitability basis in the Foreign Traffic Accounts Office, Western Railway, Delhi, Traffic Account Office,

Ajmer and Delhi (Northern Railway) according to the Railway Board's letter No. E(NG) 66RRR/12/Economy/E (G) PL of 4th April, 1968;

(b) whether all such promotions were effected from 1st April, 1968 in these offices;

(c) if not the reasons for not implementing the Board's orders; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a)

38.

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

PLATFORM FOREMEN/INSPECTORS OF SOUTHERN RAILWAY

1275. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Platform Foremen or Inspectors in Southern Railway at present;

(b) what is their revised scale of pay; and

(c) whether the revised scale of pay has been made applicable to all of them and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) Platform Foremen—26, Platform Inspectors—12.

(b) Platform Foremen are in scales Rs. 110-200(AS) and Rs. 150-240(AS), and Platform Inspectors are in scale Rs. 205-280.

(c) Yes.

MERGER OF ELGIN MILLS WITH B.I.C.

1276. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are opposed to the proposal for the merger of the Elgin Mills with the B. I. C.;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government of India gave its approval and supported the proposal initially, and