

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) No sir. All State Governments are required to make wage payment to the beneficiaries in accordance with the provisions of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). In accordance with the provisions in para 7, 8 and 8A of Schedule I of MGNREG Act, wages are to be paid according to the out turn of work and schedule of rates fixed by the State Governments. Para 7 of Schedule 1 of the MGNREGA provides that when the wages are directly linked with the quantity of work, the wages shall be paid according to the schedule of rates fixed by the State Government for different types of work. The State Governments have also been advised to devise productivity norms for all the tasks listed under piece rate works for the different local conditions of soil, slope and geology types in such a way that normal work for the prescribed duration of work results in earning the wage rate. Formulating schedule of rates is the responsibility of the concerned State Governments.

Reservation for Promotion Policy

115. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether reservation in promotion is strictly followed and implemented in the Ministry as per the provisions made in the Constitution through the 77th Amendment;

(b) if so, the details of promotion made during the last three years in all categories;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the tentative time by which the same will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Non-payment of salaries to employees of PSUs

116. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that salaries are not being paid to the employees of several Public Sector Enterprises (PSUs) for the last few months;

(b) if so, the names of such PSUs and the number of employees whose salaries are in arrears for last many months and the total amount due till date; and

(c) the reasons for delay in payment of their salaries and measures being taken to clear the arrears?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL) : (a) to (c) The responsibility of implementing wage related

guidelines and payment of salaries to the employees of CPSEs rests with the concerned CPSEs and their administrative Ministries/Departments.

Revival of Hindustan Cables Limited

117. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) of the Defence Ministry has agreed to take over Hindustan Cables Limited (HCL);
- (b) if so, the details of the same; and
- (c) the revival cost and future status of the present workers working in Hindustan Cables Limited?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Department of Defence Production, under Ministry of Defence had recently set up an inter-departmental committee to look in to the proposal for take over by Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) of Hindustan Cables Limited (HCL). The committee has since submitted its report to Department of Defence Production. However, no decision has been taken by the Department so far.

Sale of gas from PMT field

118. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Panna Mukta Tapti (PMT) J.V. partners invited bids for sale of natural gas upto 4 MMSCMD from 1st April, 2006 from various companies;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Gujarat State Petronet Limited (GSPL) offered the highest price for gas amongst the bidders;
- (c) whether the State Government has made any representation to Government to follow the rules of tender procedure and offer gas to Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation Limited (GSPCL) since their bid was the highest;
- (d) whether it is fact that Government of Gujarat has requested Government to allocate 3.15 MMSCMD for pipavav project; and
- (e) if so, the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) The Production Sharing Contract (PSC) signed between the Government and the Joint Venture (JV) provides that the entire gas would be sold to the Government nominee.

However, during 2004-05, Government allowed PMT JV to directly sell 4.6 mmscmd gas, while the remaining about 6 mmscmd gas continued to be supplied to power and fertilizer consumers through GAIL. Further, it was decided that the