

[16 August, 2004]

RAJYASABHA

(c) if so, the details thereof and the functioning of N.E.C. as well as DONER?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI PR. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) While DONER is one of the Ministries of Government of India which deals with matters relating to the development of North Eastern Region as provided in the Allocation of Business Rules of Government of India, NEC is a statutory body with the Ministry of DONER.

(c) Being a statutory body, NEC functions in accordance with the North Eastern Council Act, 1971, as amended by NEC (Amendment) Act, 2002, However, Five-Year and Annual Plans of NEC, projects and schemes undertaken by NEC under such plans and allocation of budget and release of funds are approved by the Ministry of DONER and the Planning Commission.

Diversion of funds by CCI

1203. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rupees one crore given by his Ministry to the Cement Corporation of India for voluntary retirement fund has been diverted for making payment to private firms and contractors; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken against those involved in this financial irregularity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir. VRS funds released by the Government have been utilized by CCI for the purpose for which these were released by the Government.

(b) In view of reply as above, the question does not arise.

Profits of BHEL

1204. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that BHEL has registered an impressive growth in its profits during 2003-04;

(b) if so, what is the increase over the last fiscal with action plan to further boost up its earnings; and

(c) whether the Unit also propose to raise the post-retirement benefits to its employees due to higher profits, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Net Profit of BHEL for the year 2003-04 was Rs. 658 crore as against Rs. 445 crore in 2002-03, which is an increase of 48⁰% in its Net Profit over the previous year.

BHEL is continuously striving to increase its order receipts to ensure steady and continuous growth in earnings. This coupled with cost control efforts is expected to improve the earnings of the company.

(c) At present there is no proposal to raise the post retirement benefits.

Payment of service commission by CCI

1205. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received including for Members of Parliament about payment of huge service commission to M/s. Techno Steel, Lucknow, in violation of Rules by the Rajban Zonal Office of the Cement Corporation of India Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the officials involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) Yes Sir, a complaint addressed to Chief Vigilance Commissioner with a copy to Minister of State (Heavy Industries and Public enterprises) has been received from Shri Kanwar Sarvraj Singh, Member of Parliament. The matter is being investigated by the Chief Vigilance Officer of Cement Corporation of India.