

Recommendations of Task Force to Study Differential Interest Scheme.

7127. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1917 on the 3rd August, 1984 regarding report of Task Force set up to study DRI Scheme and state :

(a) whether the Task Force constituted to consider the report of the National Institute of Bank Management on Differential Interest Scheme has submitted its recommendations to Government ;

(b) if so, the findings of this report and the decision taken by Government for their implementation ; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay and the likely date by which the report would be submitted and the action taken thereupon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The report of the Task Force on the Differential Rate of Interest Scheme is under examination of the Government.

Decline in Demand of Aluminium

7128. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the demand for aluminium in and outside the country is very low at present ;

(b) if so, the reasons for decline in the demand for aluminium in the world market ;

(c) whether his Ministry has contracted the buyers in and outside the country to sell the aluminium which is going to be produced by NALCO during the year 1986-87.

(d) if so, the names of the countries and the Indian buyers that have come forward so far ;

(e) the existing aluminium production per year from different aluminium plants ; and

(f) the steps taken to utilise the same by Government so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). The demand for aluminium in the international market is reported to have shown signs of stagnation in the recent past, on account of general economic recession. Domestic demand, however, continues to be in excess of domestic production, and at present there is no decline in the domestic demand.

(c) and (d). It has been estimated, according to current projections, that the demand for aluminium within the country will increase every year. The surplus situation in Aluminium after NALCO goes into production is expected to be temporary and short lived.

(e) The production of aluminium from different aluminium plants for the last two year has been as follows :

Name of the producer	(In tonnes)	
	1983-84	1984-85
Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd.	61,338	87,358
Indian Aluminium Company Ltd.	53,885	48,420
Hindustan Aluminium Corporation Ltd.	98,485	126,017
Madras Aluminium Company Ltd.	6,578	14,697
Total	220,286	276,492

(f) Domestic production is now being supplemented by imports.

Opening of Urban Cooperative Banks

7129. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details regarding the criteria fixed by Government for opening urban cooperative banks in the country ;

(b) the number of urban cooperative banks opened in Maharashtra till date ; and

(c) whether Government of Maharashtra have also approached the Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a). The proposed banks should truly have a cooperative character, they are expected to operate in a geographically compact area not generally extending beyond the municipal limits of the town/city in which they are registered and they should have prospects of attaining viability within a reasonable period.

(b) and (c). There were 379 Urban Co-operative Banks, having their registered offices located in the Maharashtra-State, as at the end of 30th April, 1985. The policy regarding opening of urban cooperative banks is being implemented by the Reserve Bank of India and eight proposals for organising new urban co-operative banks have since been approved by them.

Modernisation and Upgradation of Coal Mines

7130. SHRI ANANTA PRASHAD SETHI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal under their consideration to modernise and upgrade some coal mines in the country during the Seventh Five Year Plan period ;

(b) if so, the names of the coal mines identified for this propose ;

(c) whether Talcher Coal Mines of Orissa have been included under the above modernisation programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) to (c). Reconstruction and modernisation of mines is a continuous process. A number of existing mines will be modernised/reconstructed including some mines of Talcher coalfield during the Seventh Five Year Plan period.

Import of Wool-Tops.

7131. SHRI MOHAN BHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether wool tops are being imported ;

(b) if so, the quantity of wool-tops imported during the year 1983-84 and 1984-85 and likely to be imported during the year 1985-86 and the amount involved therein ;

(c) whether it is imported through some agency or direct by the mills ; and

(d) the steps being taken to develop wool-top industry in the country and to put stop its import to save crores of foreign of Rupees of exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRASHEKAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). The import of wool top has been banned with effect from 10th August, 1984.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The import of wool tops was banned with a view to developing the indigenous wool combing industry and saving foreign exchange.