

(d) The Commissioning schedule of these schemes will depend on the investment decision by the Government and tying up of essential inputs like environmental clearance, availability of funds etc.

Handing over IISCO to TISCO

*672. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to hand over the Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited to the Tata Iron and Steel Company;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government also propose to transfer 49 per cent of its equity to a non-resident Indian; and

(d) if so, the terms and conditions thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d). As directed by the Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission in the course of examination of the proposal for Modernisation of the Burnpur Steel Works of Indian Iron & Steel Company (IISCO), SBI Capital Markets Limited (SBI-CAP) has been retained to fully explore the possibilities of private participation in IISCO and for advising SAIL thereon.

SBI-CAP are in touch with the possible private (Indian, non-resident Indian and foreign) participants including TISCO and Caparo Group Limited, with which Shri Swaraj Paul, a non-resident Indian, is associated. Government are yet not aware of the details of the proposals made by the private parties.

SBI-CAP's report is expected to be received by SAIL in May, 1992. An appropri-

ate decision on private participation in IISCO will be taken after the report is received and examined fully.

Subsidy to farmers

*673. SHRI N.K. BALIYAN:
SHRI ANNA JOSHI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any subsidy is being given by the Government to the farmers for purchase of sprinkler irrigation equipments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to enhance the amount of subsidy in view of high cost of equipments; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Central Government is giving financial assistance to States for providing subsidy to farmers for purchase of sprinkler irrigation equipments under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as Intensive Cotton Development Programme, Oil Seeds Production Programme and National Pulses Development project.

(c) and (d). There is no such proposal.

Filling up posts of Executive Engineers

6998. SHRI SHASHI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of regular and adhoc vacancies filled up the grade of executive

engineer (Civil) by promotion during the last three years;

(b) the number of vacancies filled up from belonging to SC/ST out of them during that period;

(c) the reasons for not filling up the reserved posts; and

(d) the remedial steps proposed to be taken to fill up the backlog of reserved posts in the grade of Executive Engineer (Civil)?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIP.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Promotion to the Grade of Executive Engineer (Civil) is made from the following two streams:

(i) Assistant Executive Engineers (Group

A) with 5 years of regular Service in the Grade.

(ii) Assistant Engineers (Group B) with 8 years of regular service in the Grade.

While no promotion (Except one ad-hoc promotion made on the basis of Court directive) was made from them Assistant Engineer stream during the last 3 years, the number of promotions made from the Assistant Executive Engineer stream are as under:

Regular promotion -26

Adhoc promotion- 5

(b) Out of the promotions indicates in (a) above, the number of vacancies reserved for SC/ST, and those actually filled up SC/ST are as follows:

	Reserved for		Filled up from	
	SC	ST	SC	ST
Regular promotion	8	5	3	NIL
Adhoc promotion	1	1	1	NIL

(c) SC/ST officers in the Grade of Assistant Executive Engineer with minimum stipulated service required as per ruled were not available for promotion.

(d) The back-log reserved vacancies can be filled up only when SC/ST officers with the requisite qualifying service in the feeder grade become available as there is no direct recruitment.

C-Dot system

6999. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on C-Dot system during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the target fixed during the Plan period has been achieved; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIP.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The amount spent on C-Dot during the Seventh Five Year Plan period is about Rs. 71.96 Crores.

(b) Yes, Sir.