

per cent as interest from new industries to be established in backward areas, the banks and financial institutions have been charging high rates;

(b) what are the rates of interest charged by banks and financial institutions for allotment of lands, sheds and other things, how would Government like to restrict them from charging high rate of interest; and

(c) details of interests charged on capital loans of different types in various States, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (KUMARI ABHA MAITI): (a) to (c). The scheme of Concessional Finance operated by the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) provides for grant of loans on a lower rate of interest of 9.5 per cent in selected backward areas by eligible banks and financial institutions availing of the refinance from IDBI at a concessional rate of 6 per cent.

Till now, generally, only the State Financial Corporations have taken advantage of this IDBI facility and the banks have taken very little advantage of this refinance scheme. In a recent meeting of the Chief Executives of Public Sector Banks held under the Chairmanship of Union Finance Minister it was agreed that commercial banks should try and avail of IDBI refinance facility and the bottlenecks that might be coming in their way should be removed in consultation with the IDBI in order to step up the development of backward areas.

The rates of interest charged on capital loans of different types vary from State to State and scheme to scheme, generally ranging from 9.5 per cent to about 12½ per cent approximately.

Factories Manufacturing Cameras

3928. SHRI RAJE VISHVESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of factories in our country that manufacture cameras,

(b) what are the names of those factories;

(c) whether those cameras are worth competing with the ones those are manufactured in other countries, and

(d) if not, what is the Government of India proposing to do to come at par with the other countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (KUMARI ABHA MAITI): (a) and (b). There are two until in the organised Sector manufacturing cameras. These are:

(i) National Instruments Limited, Calcutta. (A Government of India Undertaking).

(ii) New India Industries, Baroda.

The following units are in the small scale sector:—

(i) Camera Works Private Limited, Bombay.

(ii) Standard Workshop, Madras.

(iii) The Standard Machinery, Madras.

(iv) K. B. Industry, Lucknow.

(c) and (d). The cameras being manufactured in the country are mostly Box-type, Folding and Process Cameras. M/s. New India Industries are, however, manufacturing 35 m.m. Pocket Cameras exclusively for export.

Keeping in view the need for manufacturing quality cameras both for amateurs and professionals as also for various agencies like the Defence, Police, Research Laboratories etc., the Government of India have approved the scheme of M/s. National Instruments Ltd., Calcutta, for manufacture-

of 35 m.m. Lens-Shutter Cameras and Single-Lens-Reflex Cameras. Collaboration has also been approved with M/s. Regulla Werke K.G., West Germany. Production has started recently. Qualitywise, these camers should compare well with those manufactured in other countries.

Construction of a Bridge on Brahmaputra between Silghat and Tezpur

3929. SHRI PURNA SINHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a demand from the North Eastern Council for grant of money for construction of a second bridge over the Brahmaputra between Silghat and Tezpur;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to provide the money in order to construct the bridge in view of its necessity for the people of Asam and Arunachal living on either bank of the Brahmaputra river; and

(c) when the construction of the bridge will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL):

(a) In the Draft Annual Plan for 1978-79, the North Eastern Council have proposed that this project be taken up as a Central scheme or special allocation be made for its construction as a regional project.

(b) The Draft Annual Plan is under discussion in the Planning Commission. No decision regarding funding of the project has been taken so far.

(c) Does not arise.

Pension to the Service Personnel

3930. SHRI BALDEV SINGH JAS-ROTHIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are reviewing the condition of holding a

rank for 2 years to qualify for pension of the service personnel to bring it in line with Central Government Civilian employees whose pension is now being assessed on the last 10 months pay drawn as against 3 years previously;

(b) whether service personnel who hold substantive rank even for 1 day are entitled to draw pension of that rank who though otherwise qualify for pension due to length of service;

(c) whether there is disparity between those who are granted Commission from the ranks due to their experience as S. L. officers and other G.D. officers for grant of acting and substantive ranks; and

(d) if so, whether Government are considering to remove this disparity?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) and (b). There is a fundamental difference between the Military Pension Code and the Civil Pension Code. While under the civil rules, pension is calculated on average emoluments drawn during the last 10 months, military pension is fixed for each rank based on the maximum pay of the rank. Service personnel are, however, required to serve for a minimum period of 2 years in a particular rank to be eligible for the pension of that rank irrespective of whether the rank is held in substantive or paid acting capacity. As a sequel to the Government orders effective from 1st March, 1976, reducing the period from 36 months to 10 months for calculation of average emoluments for the purpose of civil pension, the question whether any liberalisation is called for in respect of Service personnel is under consideration.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Special List officers and the corresponding officers of the Navy and the Air Force, being altogether separate cadres, their rules of promotion are also different as compared to those applicable to the regular commissioned officers.