

(b) its financial impact on the national exchequer for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Dearness Allowance (DA)/ Dearness Relief (DR) to Central Government Employees/Pensioners is revised twice a year from 1st January and 1st July and normally payable with salary for the months of March and September respectively. The revised amount of DA/DR will be notified in due course.

Loan for handloom weavers

114. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for extending the low interest loan facility to handloom weavers as was done for farmers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) It has been decided that Ministry of Finance in consultation with Ministry of Textiles and other stake holders shall discuss the problems relating to credit to the handloom weavers. No decision has been taken as of now.

Settlement of crop insurance claims

115. SHRI MULE VENKATA MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Insurance Companies consider threshold yield as bench mark for settling claims of groundnut and paddy crops;

(b) if so, what is the procedure adopted for arriving threshold yield of groundnut and paddy crops;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the procedure adopted for settling the crop insurance claim is detrimental to the farmers; and

(d) if so, whether there is any proposal to review and revive the procedure adopted for settling crop insurance claims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Yes, Sir.