

(b) if so, the action Government propose to take to expedite payment of the dues to the employees?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b) Pension and gratuity claims of the ex-Civil Aviation Department employees who had been permanently absorbed in the International Airports Authority have not yet been settled, but action is being taken to do so expeditiously. Since a large number of employees is involved a Pension Cell has been formed at each of the four Regional Headquarters and the International Airports Authority have also ordered the Directors at the four International Airports to give every possible assistance to the Pension Cell to expedite the settlement of the claims. Action is also being taken in consultation with the Bureau of Public Enterprises to expedite the payment of General Provident Fund.

Pollution of the Water in Pichola Lake

365. SHRI GANESH LAL MALI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the sewage from the Lake Palace Hotel in Pichola Lake at Udaipur is discharged into the Pichola Lake thereby posing a serious health hazard as the lake water is a source of drinking water for the people of Udaipur; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to stop pollution of water of the Lake?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. (SMT.) SAROJINI MAHISHI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Enquiries made reveal that septic tanks have been provided at the Lake Palace Hotel, Udaipur. These ensure independent sewage disposal; after suitable treatment, the water is used for gardening purposes inside the Lake Palace. It is understood that the septic tanks have been reinforced at cost of Rs. 40,000 approximately to prevent seepage.

Laxmi Vilas Palace Hotel, Udaipur

366. SHRI GANESH LAL MALI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Laxmi Vilas Palace, Udaipur was purchased by the Government of India for running a hotel; and

(b) if so, the amount paid for (i) the land and buildings and (ii) furniture and other decoration articles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. (SMT.) SAROJINI MAHISHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Laxmi Vilas Place at Udaipur was purchased from the Maharana of Mewar at a total price of Rs. 7 lakhs including cost of the land, building, furniture, furnishings, paintings and other articles.

Loans to Hotels

367. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the amount disbursed as loans by Government to various hotels in the country during the year 1973-74?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SMT. SAROJINI MAHISHI): Loans amounting to Rs. 1.80 crores under the Hotel Development Loans Scheme were disbursed to various approved projects during 1973-74, of which Rs. 1.76 crores were paid through the Industrial Finance Corporation and Rs. 4 lakhs were paid directly by the Department of Tourism.

D.A. instalments due to Central Government Employees

368. SHRI KATRAGADDA SRINIVASA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that further instalments of D.A. have become due to the Central Government employees as per the D.A. formula laid down by the Third Pay Commission;

(b) if so, the dates from which the instalments have become due; and

(c) by when the announcement in this regard is likely to be made by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (c) The last instalment of dearness allowance was sanctioned to employees belonging to Classes II, III and IV with effect from 1-2-1974 when the 12 monthly average of the All India Working Class Consumer Price Index (1960 series) crossed 240. The next instalment of D.A. in terms of the Third Pay Commission's recommendation as accepted by Government, would be due when the index average touches 248. Information has not yet become available to indicate that the average has touched 248. The matter will be examined as soon as the information becomes available.

†Third Pay Commission Report

123. SHRI GURMUKH SINGH MUSA-FIR:

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR

SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE:

SHRI V. B. RAJU:

DR. Z. A. AHMAD:

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:

SHRI J. S. TILAK:

SHRI KRISHAN KANT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the engineers, scientists, doctors and other categories of technocrats have shown any resentment against the decision taken by Government regarding the pay scale of Class I officers on the recommendations made by the Third Pay Commission; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN): (a) The representations received from some organisations of Class I officers indicate that certain sections of Government employees belonging to Class I are not fully satisfied with the decisions of

Government on the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission.

(b) The Pay Commission had made its recommendations in respect of Services/posts in Class I after careful consideration, *inter alia*, of the submissions made before it by organisations belonging to those Services. Government also gave due consideration to the demands which had been made for making deviations from the Commission's recommendations, and came to the conclusion that because of several factors, it was not possible to make any material changes, except a few marginal adjustments in the recommendations and the final decision on these recommendations was announced on 29th March, 1974. It is not possible to make any further improvements on those decisions in respect of one service or another.

†Search by CBI of residence of officials of Exchange Control Department of Reserve Bank of India, Bombay

259. SHRI O. P. TYAGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in February-March, 1974 the Central Bureau of Investigation had made searches at the Bombay residences of four high officials of the Exchange Control Department of Reserve Bank of India; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b) The Reserve Bank of India has reported that, in the course of their work, the Officers of its Exchange Control Department, came across certain suspicious features in a case relating to exports to Afghanistan. After due investigation, in cooperation with the Directorate of Enforcement, the Reserve Bank of India made a formal complaint to the Directorate of Enforcement in October, 1973 and at the instance of the Directorate of Enforcement made a complaint to the Central Bureau of Investigation in January, 1974. The Central Bureau of Investigation, during the course of its investigations, felt the need for searching the offices and residences of four officers of the Reserve Bank

†Transferred from the 25th April, 1974.

†Transferred from the 2nd May, 1974.