

upto Rs. 100 p.m. In 1958, the rates of temporary increase for those who continued to remain on the Old Pension Code were improved. Again in 1963, an ad hoc increase was sanctioned for all existing and future pensioners drawing pension upto Rs. 200 p.m. In the case of pensioners governed by the Old Pension Code, the ad hoc increase is in addition to the temporary increase.

(c) and (d) Representations have been received in this connection. The rates of pension of retired personnel depend on the pay drawn by them at the time of retirement and the rules and orders applicable to them at that time. This is a basic principle which it is not proposed to change. The gap between the old and new pensioners has however been narrowed by the grant of temporary and ad hoc increases.

STATELESS PERSONS OF INDIAN ORIGIN IN CEYLON

228. SHRI JAGAT NARAIN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made in the implementation of the Indo-Ceylonese Agreement with regard to stateless persons of Indian origin in Ceylon, both by Indian and Ceylonese authorities;

(b) whether the Government of Ceylon are slow in implementing the agreement; and

(c) if so, the reasons assigned therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) to (c) Under the Indo-Ceylon Agreement of 1964, 35,000 persons had been granted Indian citizenship to the end of February 1969, and to the end of December 1968, 225 persons had been granted citizenship by the Ceylon Government. Unlike the Government of India, which already had the necessary constitutional authority for the purpose, the Ceylon Government had to introduce fresh

legislation for the grant of citizenship to applicants under the 1964 agreement. Hence there were some unavoidable delay on their side in commencing with registration. The Ceylon Government have, however, assured us that they hope shortly to fulfil their obligation of registering 12 persons for every 20 persons registered as Indian citizens.

229. [Transferred to the 1th May, 1969.]

EXPORT OF RICE AND WHEAT

230. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the period from November 1968 to January, 1969, India exported to various countries a total quantity of approximately 3,087 metric tons of rice;

(b) if so, what amount in foreign exchange was earned from this sale; and

(c) whether Government have decided to export wheat and if so, what quantity of this cereal has been exported so far and where and at what price ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (CHOW-DHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) Yes,

Sir.

(b) About Rs. 62.56 lakhs.

(c) No, Sir.

SOVIET AID FOR INDIA'S FOURTH FIVE YEAR PLAN

231. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any bipartite talks have been held after the visit to Moscow by Gadgil delegation in September, 1968 between India and Soviet Union in respect of Soviet Aid for India's Fourth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?