

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b). The pay scales in public sector banks are identical for the workmen. There are, however, slight differentials in the pay scales of officers of Scale V and above between the State Bank of India vis-a-vis other public sector banks due to historical reasons.

[English]

Export of Buffalo Meat to Kuwait

787. **SHRI E.S.M. PAKEER MOHAMED:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 10 per cent cash incentive given by Government to meat exporters has been withdrawn resulting in increase in the price in the international market;

(b) if so, whether this has resulted in the boycott of Indian buffalo meat by Kuwait resulting in loss of foreign exchange; and

(c) the measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SHREEDHARAN): (a) and (b). Cases of Cash Compensatory Support (CCS) on exports are decided by a inter-Ministerial Committee of the Government, after considering the Cost Data submitted by exporters. After examining the cost data submitted by some of the exporters of meat, the Committee did not find any justification for granting CCS on frozen buffalo meat and hence CCS on this item was withdrawn w.e.f. 1.6.1990.

Our Embassy in Kuwait has informed that so far as they are aware, there is no boycott of Indian buffalo meat by Kuwait. It is too early to say whether withdrawal of CCS

has resulted in increase in the international prices.

(c) The exporters of meat have been advised to resubmit complete cost data to facilitate review of the question of grant of CCS.

Reduction of Public Spending

788. **SHRI ANBARASU ERA:**
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has introduced a series of economy measures to reduce public spending in addition to 10 per cent cut in budgetary allocations of Ministries and 20 per cent reduction in their foreign travel expenditure; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Government has issued instructions for containment of public spending.

(b) All Government Ministries/Departments have been asked to absorb additional commitment on Dearness Allowance within the provision made for establishment expenditure. They have also been asked to locate savings within their budget to match the additional expenditure provisions sought for by them. The Ministries/Departments have been requested to review the whole range of functions being performed by them with a view to reduce functions and activities which are no longer relevant or can be performed more economically in some other way. Instructions have been issued to Ministries to wind up the foreign offices of promotional agencies under their control. Further they are to reduce expenditure on foreign travel to