

pleted year of service subject to a maximum of 16½ months' pay or Rs. 30,000/- whichever is less. The pension is now determined on a slab basis which allows pension equal to half the average emoluments for a large majority of employees.

(c) A Government servant's retirement benefits are determined with reference to rules in force on the date of retirement. Any liberalisations in the retirement benefits are, as a matter of policy, allowed only prospectively. It is, therefore, not possible to give old pensioners the benefit of the latest liberalisations in the retirement benefits. However, pre-1-1-73 retirees have been allowed an ad hoc relief ranging from Rs. 15 to Rs. 35 per month depending on the quantum of pension, in addition to instalments of dearness relief as recommended by the Third Pay Commission. The number of instalments of relief upto index level 360 admissible to persons retiring on different dates is as follows:—

—ten instalments totalling 50 per cent of pension subject to a minimum of Rs. 50 and a maximum of Rs. 250 per month, to those retiring before 30-9-1977.

—six instalments, totalling 30 per cent of pension subject to a minimum of Rs. 30 and a maximum of Rs. 150 per month to those retiring on or after 30-9-1977 with the benefits of merger of dearness allowance with pay at index level 272.

Price of Jute falling in North Bengal

6441. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of jute in North Bengal has started falling and reached Rs. 150 per quintal in the first week of July, 1980;

(b) whether failure of Jute Corporation to enter the market in this area encouraged the activities of 'Farias' (Middlemen); and

(c) if so, what steps Government proposed to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE

AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). According to the reports received from the field offices of the Jute Corporation of India, prices in most markets of North Bengal are still ruling above statutory level. The Corporation and the Cooperatives are already in position to commence operations.

National Policy on Tourism

6442. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new national policy on tourism has been formulated; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) No, Sir, the matter is being examined.

(b) Does not arise.

Memorandum from Indian Phonographic Industry

6443. SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a memorandum from Indian Phonographic Industry (IPI) on February 26, 1980 complaining against sales of pirated cassettes; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). The Memorandum, in question, was received in the Ministry of Industry, and is under consideration.

सरकारी क्षेत्र और गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र में उचित दर की दुकानें

6444. श्री प्रभु नारायण टंडन : क्या नागरिक पूर्ति मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि सहकारी क्षेत्र और गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र में उचित दर की दुकानों की तुलनात्मक प्रतिशतता क्या है ?