

Encashment of Leave by Central Government Employees

2470. SHRI MANI RAM BAGRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to allow encashment of leave by Central Government employees; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL). (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. There was a proposal to allow encashment of leave for unutilised earned leave at the time of retirement on superannuation. The proposal has been accepted by the Government on 29-10-1977. The main features of the scheme are, in brief as follows:

(i) The Scheme is applicable to Government servants retiring on or after 30-9-1977:

(ii) The payment of cash equivalent of leave salary shall be limited to a maximum of 180 days earned leave.

(iii) The cash equivalent of leave salary thus admissible will become payable on retirement and will be paid in one lump-sum as a one-time settlement.

(iv) Cash payment under the Scheme will, subject to (v) below, be equal to leave salary as admissible for earned leave and dearness allowance admissible on that leave salary at the rates in force on the date of retirement. No city compensatory allowance and/or house rent allowance shall be payable.

(v) From the cash amount worked out in accordance with (iv) above will be deducted the pension and pensionary equivalent of other retirement benefits for the period for which cash equivalent is payable.

(vi) The authority competent to grant leave shall *suo-motu*, issue order granting cash equivalent of earned leave at credit on the date of retirement.

Prospects of Iron Ore Exports to Japan

2471. SHRI S. R. REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the prospects of iron ore exports to Japan in 1977-78;

(b) the quantity exported last year and at what price; and

(c) what prices are being negotiated now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) to (c). India (both MMTC and Goan exporters) exported about 18 million tonnes of iron ore to Japan during 1976-77. The Japanese iron and steel industry is passing through a serious recession at present. Exports during the current year are therefore facing difficulties and the prospects of any substantial increase over last year's level are not very bright.

It would not be in public interest to go into the details of export prices of iron ore.

Proposal to Convert Hyderabad into a Dry Port

2472. SHRI G. S. REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to convert Hyderabad into a dry port?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): No, Sir.