employees in question did not suffer financially for want of right of option.

Central Civil Services (Revised Pay) Rule, 1973

8610. SHRI KAILASH PRAKASH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) is it true that Central Civil Service (Revised Pay) Rule, 1973 was given retrospective effect from 1st January, 1973 and some employees appointed after 1st January, 1973 but before date of notification were adversely affected by retrospective effect of rules;
- (b) does such action of Government not contravene the instructions contained in Office Memo. No. SR.II (8—10) IV/68-CB dated 13th May, 1969 of Department of Parliamentary Affairs:
- (c) number of employees appointed/promoted between 1st January and 13th November, 1973 and suffering for want of right of option; and
- (d) what does Government propose to do to remove the anomaly in the aforesaid rule?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (d). The Central Civil Services (Revised Pay) Rules, 1973 have been issued following the recommendations of the Pay Commission. The Third Third Pay Commission itself recommended retrospective had effect one month in TPRpect of recommendations ٥n is pay scales and retirement benefits. The employees' representatives on the Staff Side of the J.C.M. (Joint Consultative Machinery) wanted period to be increased further several months. After discussions with the Staff Side, Government ultimately decided to give retrospective effect to the Commission's recommendations on these matters from 1st January 1973, i.e. a retrospective

effect of two months only in addition to the retrospective effect of month recommended by the Commission. The decision of the Government on giving further retrospective effect to these recommendations has benefited the overwhelming maiority of Government servants. There might. however, be some cases in which the application of the recommendations even by one day might have some adverse effect. It was, therefore, mentioned in the Explanatory Memorandum to the CCS (RP) Rules 1973 and the amendments thereto issued subsequently from time to time, that even though the Commission had recommended the revision of pay scales from 1st March 1973. Government had decided to give effect to such recommendations from 1st January, 1973 in order to provide greater benefit to the Government servants in general keeping in view the instructions in the Department of Parliamentary Affairs O.M. No. SR. II(8-10) IV/68-CB dated 13th May 1969. It may be mentioned in this connection that under Rule 5 of the CCS (RP) Rules, 1973, persons in position on 1st January 1973 have the option to retain the pre-revised scales of pay or to come over to the revised scales from the date of any subsequent increment as may be advantageous to them. These persons would not, therefore be adversely affected by retrospective revision in respect of posts held by them on 1st January 1973. In the case of persons appointed after 1st January 1973, the question as to how far it is necessary for Government to allow further concessions to such of them as might have been adversely affected by giving the rules retrospective effect was examined in consultation with the Law Ministry keeping in view the recommendations of Committee on Subordinate Legislation and orders have been issued in this Ministry's O.M. No. 67/II/74-IC dated 1st June :974. giving further benefits like protection of drop in emoluments, and non-recovery of overpayments which might

arise up to the date of the issue of the orders laying down revised scales of the posts held by them.

The above would cover the employees appointed/promoted between the 1st January and the 13th November, 1973. The number of such employees is, however, not known.

Similar points had also been raised by the Committee on Subordinate Legislation and the above position was intimated to the Committee. After considering the same, the Committee had approved the action taken by the Government in the matter,

Steps to check smuggling of Stainless steel sheets

8611. SHRI DHARAM VIR VAS-ISHT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that on an average stainless steel sheets worth Rs. 4 to 5 crores are smuggled into Madras and Bombay Ports and other parts of the country every year under the label "scrap";
- (b) whether it is a fact that in October last 25 tonnes of the commodity landed at Surat; and
- (c) whether the lowering of import duty announced in last June counteracted smuggling of stainless steel and if not, the steps taken to control smuggling of the commodity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL): (a)
According to reports received by the
Government, there was no case in the
recent past involving smuggling of
stainless steel sheets in the garb of
"scrap".

(b) No Sir. However, in August, 1977, there was a seizure of stainless steel sheets weighing 24 metric tonnes valued at Rs. 15.44 lakhs, from a vessel, near Kantiyajal, in Broach District.

(c) Reduction of import duty would have, no doubt, reduced the profitability in the smuggling of stainless steel sheets. The Government have however, taken steps to reinforce and reorganise the Customs Preventive and Intelligence apparatus with a view to ensuring that a close vigil is kept in the docks and other places so that attempts to smuggle stainless steel sheets are thwarted.

मौसम विज्ञान सम्बन्धी प्रयोगशालाओं का ग्राधनिकीकरण

8612. श्री लालजी शाई : क्या पर्यटन श्रीर नागर जिलानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

- (क) क्या सरकार का देश में विभिन्न मौसम विज्ञान सम्बन्धी प्रयोगशालाओं के श्रधुनिकीकरण का कोई प्रस्ताव है; श्रौर
- (ख) यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी व्यारा क्या है?

पर्यटन धीर नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुक्बोत्तम कौशिक): (क) भीर (ख). मौसम विज्ञान-सम्बन्धी प्रयोग-शालाओं का नवीकरण एक लगातर चलने वाली प्रक्रिया है, लिहाजा परिवासनात्मक भावश्यकताओं भीर संसाधनों की उपलब्धता के भनरूप प्रयत्न जारी हैं।

पंजवर्षीय योजना 1978-83 के ग्रन्तर्गत भारत मौसम विज्ञान विभाग की निम्नलिखित योजनाएं हैं:---

- (i) राष्ट्रार यंत्र के लिए परिचालना-रमक तकनीक का विकास,
- (ii) ऊपरी वायु मापन तथा सतही प्रेक्षणों में प्रयोग होने वाले रेडियो-सौदे के लिए मौसम वैक्रानिक "सैंसरों" का माधुनिकीकरण ;
- (iii) उपकरणों का अनुसंधान तथा विकास;