

(ग) इस निधि से वस्तुओं से सम्बन्धित ऐसे विभिन्न उपायों को वित्तीय सहायता उपलब्ध कराई जायेगी, जिनका उद्देश्य निर्यात आय को बनाये रखना, उसमें स्थिरता लाना तथा सुधार लाना है। पटसन, चाय तथा कोयलर जैसी भारत के निर्यात हित की वस्तुएं ऐसी सहायता की पात्र हो सकती हैं। तथापि, यह तभी संभव हो सकेगा, जब इन वस्तुओं के लिए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय वस्तु करार संपन्न हो जायेगा।

Pension to Government Pensioners

2979. SHRI R. R. BHOLE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Government Pensioners that due to price spiralling their pensions should be increased; and

(b) whether Government propose to link pension with the cost of living index as was done for employees in service on 1st September, 1977?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To compensate pensioners for the rise in cost of living, the pensioners are allowed relief on pension. The formula for grant of relief on pension was recommended by the Third Pay Commission, and the relief has been granted to all existing pensioners irrespective of the date of retirement. The relief is linked to the consumer price index and is allowed at the rate of 5 per cent of pension, subject to a minimum of Rs. 5 and a maximum of Rs. 25 per month, for every 16-point rise in the 12-monthly average of the All India Working Class Consumer Price Index (base 1960—100). So far, 9 instalments of such relief covering average index at the level of 344 points have been granted. This amounts to 45 per cent of pension, subject to a minimum of Rs. 45 and a maximum of 225 per month. The quantum of relief is 25 per cent instead of 45 per cent for those who retired on or after 30-9-77 and whose retirement benefits were

calculated after taking into account the dearness allowance merged with pay.

In addition to this graded relief, pre-1.1.73 pensioners have been granted ad hoc relief ranging from Rs. 15 to Rs. 35 per month.

Development of Coimbatore Airport

2980. SHRI ERA MOHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop the Coimbatore Aerodrome for bigger aircraft to land in view of the heavy air traffic; and

(b) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) and (b) It is proposed to acquire land for extension of the runway in the first phase of development of Coimbatore aerodrome for Boeing 737 operations.

Liabilities of Certificate Holders in Peerless Company

2981. SHRI MUNDAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of total liabilities of the Certificate holders in "Peerless" Investment and Insurance Company in Government custody;

(b) what amount of this Company is invested in Government Securities and in the Nationalised Banks separately;

(c) what is the total business given by the "Peerless" Company till 1979-80;

(d) what is the security of the money of certificate holders invested in the Company; and

(e) on what ground the Government of Madhya Pradesh has banned "Peerless" to work in that state?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) The Re-