

The cases of default are being vigorously pursued and progress is closely monitored and reviewed by the institutions through periodical progress reports, frequent inspections exchange of views at Senior Executive Meetings/Inter-Institutional Meetings, discussions with the managements of the assisted concerns etc. Appropriate action is being taken for the recovery of amount in default as also rehabilitation of affected concerns jointly with other participating institutions/banks. All efforts are being made by the institutions to recover the dues.

House Rent Allowance to Central Government Employees without production of rent receipts

4408. SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VERMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering hardships of a section of Central Government employees with a monthly pay of Rs. 751 and above who are not paid House Rent Allowance at the admissible rate of 15 per cent without production of rent receipts ;

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal ;

(c) whether in view of steep rise in rental value of houses in Delhi and other Metropolitan cities and also merger of Dearness Allowance with basic pay for purpose of grant of HRA and CCA etc. Government are considering to raise the pay limit from Rs. 751 to Rs. 1500 p. m., enabling the affected employees to draw full benefit of H.R.A. ; and

(d) the date by which the decision of Government is likely to be announced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA):

(a) to (d). Consequent on the merger of dearness allowance sanctioned upto average index 320 with pay for the purpose of house rent allowance, Government have raised the existing pay ceiling of 750/- p.m. for claiming House Rent Allowance without production of rent receipt/assessment of rental value (of owned house) to Rs. 1065/- p. m. This will result in raising the ceiling limit of HRA admissible without production of rent receipt in A, B-1 and B-2 class cities from Rs. 112.50 p. m. to Rs. 159.75 p.m.

World Bank Aided Agricultural Scheme

4409. SHRI A. NEELALOHIT-HADASAN NADAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the agricultural schemes, if any, aided by the World Bank; and

(b) the State-wise details and the amount of assistance so far given?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) :

(a) and (b). Details of ongoing Agricultural Schemes aided by the World Bank group are given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4431/82]

Import of Colour TV Sets at Reduced Duty

4410. SHRI K. MALLANNA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a Government proposal to allow Indian residents abroad to send colour TV sets freely to this country