

1982-83 showed a marginal decline as compared to the production during the corresponding period of 1981-82 but this was made up in the second half of the year. However, the production of raw coal during the first half of 1982-83 showed improvement compared to the production during the corresponding period of 1981-82.

(c) An overall analysis of production data relating to first 9 months of 1982-83 shows that there has been improvement in production of raw coal, lignite, petroleum crude (by O.N.G.C.), crude through-put cement (by C.C.L.), copper and aluminium as compared to the production during the corresponding period last year. Industries in the heavy engineering group have also recorded an impressive improvement. There is also a decline in the production of fertilisers and minerals and metals.

(d) The improvement of the performance of public enterprises in all sectors including those in the steel and coal sectors is constantly kept under review which included the following steps :—

- (i) Government at the highest level monitors the performance of public enterprises providing infrastructural facilities like transportation, power, basic raw materials etc. with a view to improving their output ;
- (ii) Improving the selection and appraisal of top managerial personnel as well as timely filling up of top vacancies;
- (iii) Expeditious settlement of ways disputes;
- (iv) Review of performance of the enterprises periodically by the administrative ministries and the Bureau of Public Enterprises;
- (v) Enforcement of preventive and predictive maintenance of plant and machinery; and
- (vi) Sanctioning of additional investment in balancing facilities and captive power plants wherever required.

Committee to Review Present Productivity Linked Bonus System

6485. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHRMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have constituted a high-power committee to review the present productivity-linked bonus system and examine the feasibility of extending the bonus scheme to employees not covered so far;

(b) what is the Composition of the committee and what are its terms of reference; and

(c) when the Committee is expected to submit its report ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO) : (a) to (c) A statement giving the requisite information is attached.

Statement

The Central Government has constituted a 'Group of Officers' to enquire into the working of the Productivity Linked Bonus Schemes as at present applicable to certain segments of the Central Government Employees in all its aspects and make recommendations. The problems that have arisen during the operation of the Productivity Linked Bonus Schemes introduced in various organisations so far and the staff associations' demand for extension of Productivity Linked Bonus Scheme to the generality of Central Government Employees have also been referred to the 'Group of Officers' for its consideration.

The composition of the 'Group of Officers' is as follows :—

- (1) Shri Bazle Karim,
Secretary (Coordination),
Cabinet Secretariat. . . . Chairman
- (2) Shri K.V. Seshadri,
Additional Secretary,
Department of Personnel and
Administrative Reforms . . . Member

- (3) Shri R.R. Savoor,
Former Member (Finance),
P & T Board; . . . Member

Shri G. N. Tandon, Controller of Accounts, Ministry of Finance, is the Secretary to the 'Group of Officers'.

The 'Group of Officers' is expected to submit its report by April 30, 1983.

Extension of Pension Rules to Government Employees retired prior to 1979.

6486. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state ;

(a) what is the number of persons at present who retired from Central Government Service prior to 1979 who are not covered by the latest retirement rules ;

(b) what is the estimated additional expenditure that Government will have to incur if the latest rules are extended to them also in compliance with the Supreme Court's latest ruling on the subject ; and

(c) what is the rationale and justification for not extending the latest pension rules to those who retired earlier than 1979.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO) : (a) There are approx. 11 lakhs persons who retired prior to 1979 who are not covered by the latest retirement rules.

(b) On a broad estimation, it will involve an estimated additional expenditure of Rs. 204 crores as arrears for the years 1979-80 to 1982-83 and, in addition, an annual expenditure of Rs. 51 crores from the year 1983-84 onward.

(c) The Central Government had filed an Application for Review of the judgement on the subject. This case is reported to have been decided but the receipt of the decision is awaited.

Tax exemption for manufacture of T.V. sets.

6487. SHRI DOONGAR SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased

to state the proposals under consideration of the Ministry to give tax exemptions etc. to make T.V. sets available to all ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO) : At present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Ministry to give tax exemptions to make T.V. sets available to all.

World Bank Loan for Coal Project

6488. SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether the World Bank has communicated to the Indian Government that they will provide loan to the two coal projects ;

(b) if so, whether any high Bank official team visited India during March, 1983 ;

(c) whether the World Bank has said that they will take the final decision in July, 1983 ;

(d) what are the coal projects on which World Bank will provide loan ; and

(e) what are the places where they will be set-up ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (e) Dudichua Opencast mine in Singrauli Coalfield and Block II Opencast mine in Jharia Coalfield have been posed to World Bank Group for assistance. A World Bank Mission visited India in February/March 1983 to appraise these projects. The Bank's reaction is awaited.

Projects and Equipment Corporation (PEC) to set up a Mills in Algeria.

6489. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Projects and Equipment Corporation (PEC) has a proposal for setting up a textile mill in Algeria ;

(b) if so, the cost of that plant ;