

- (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 ;