

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO) : (a) to (c) Two instalments of D.A. became due for consideration, consequent on average index crossing 480 and 488 points at the end of February and April 1983 from 1-3-1983 and 1-5-1983 respectively.

Payment of each instalment of Dearness Allowance to Central Government employees and relief to pensioners costs the exchequer approximately Rs. 72 crores and Rs. 8 crores respectively. Therefore, the question of payment of each instalment of Dearness Allowance has to be considered carefully with regard to their impact on the economic situation and the budget. The question of sanction for payment of these instalments is receiving the attention of the Government.

Condition of Delhi Airport Cargo Godowns

4239. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government had been drawn to the press report appeared in the "Times of India" dated 4 August, 1983 highlighting the prevailing conditions in the Delhi airport cargo godowns with serious risk of damage to the imported goods and harassment to the importers in collecting their goods; and

(b) if so, what measures have been taken by Government to improve the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Suitable measures have been introduced by Air India in coordination with the Central Warehousing Corporation which include extension of office hours and working on holidays so that handling of the cargo is speeded up. The International Airports Authority of India intends to constructing a

modern mechanised cargo terminal which will meet not only the present cargo traffic, but also the anticipated growth in future. This project is scheduled to be commissioned by mid-1985. To meet the existing growth in demand, Central Warehousing Corporation has made a three-fold increase in its storage capacity at the airport.

Decision to increase stipend of Trainees in Carpet Weaving Training Scheme

4240. DR. GULAM YAZDANI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a decision to increase stipend of trainees in the carpet weaving training scheme, has been taken by Government along-with increases in wages of craftsmen;

(b) if so, whether the revised rates are under operation; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay in implementing the same ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. It has been decided to increase stipend of trainees in the carpet weaving training scheme.

(b) and (c) The increased stipend will be given effect to after the re-organisation of the scheme which is under consideration.

Grievances of Drivers of Syndicate Bank Manipal

4241. SHRI OSKAR FERNANDES : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the drivers of Syndicate Bank, Manipal have represented to Government about their exploitation by the bank by not taking them on regular rolls but by only treating them as drivers engaged by officers of the bank;