

256 bank employees of the public sector banks are suspected to have been involved in such cases.

(c) Information relating to the number of bankmen dismissed or suspended as a result of their involvement in misappropriation is not available. However, according to the provisional data so far available during the year 1983, 616 employees of public sector banks were reported to have been punished on charges of frauds and other corrupt practices. The punishments may relate to the cases of earlier periods also.

(d) Such cases of frauds etc. are reported by banks to the police/Central Bureau of Investigation. In addition, criminal or civil suits for recovery of dues, as in the case of other dues to the banks from borrowers etc., are also filed.

Length of active Service for availing of benefits granted to Ex-servicemen

1845. DR. A. U. AZMI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the definition of 'ex-serviceman' ;

(b) whether in order to avail of the concession/benefits granted to ex-servicemen, the service people manage to get them discharged or do not undertake minimum 15 year's service so as to earn pension and leave service ;

(c) if so, whether the benefits to ex-servicemen will be denied to such people i. e. who have not rendered a minimum service of 15 years hence-forth and preference will be given to those who have taken part in active service only ; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) "Ex-serviceman" means a person, who has served in any rank (whether as a combatant or as non-

combatant) in the Armed Forces of the Union, including the Armed Forces of the former Indian States, but excluding the Assam Rifles, Defence Security Corps, General Reserve Engineering Force, Lok Sahayak Sena and certain categories of the personnel of the Territorial Army, for a continuous period of not less than six months after attestation and (i) Has been released, otherwise than at his own request or by way of dismissal or discharge on account of misconduct or inefficiency, or has been transferred to the reserve pending such release or (ii) Has to serve for not more than six months for completing the period of service requisite for becoming entitled to be released or transferred to the reserve as aforesaid, or (iii) Has been released at his own request, after completing five years service in the Armed Forces of the Union.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

World Bank Loan for Railways

1846. SHRI J. S. PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 6975 on 6th April, 1984 regarding World Bank Loan for Railway Projects and state the outcome/results of the negotiations held with the World Bank for the assistance for project of Railway electrification and workshop modernisation ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : An agreement with the World Bank for a loan of \$ 280.7 million for the Railway Electrification and Workshop Modernisation Project was signed on 25th May, 1984. This project envisages electrification of about 3,000 Kms. of Indian Railway's trunk-routes and modernisation of 6 selected workshops and the Integral Coach Factory, Madras.

Rationalising Excise Structure on all Inputs for Handloom

1848. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT : Will the Minister of FINANCE