Further Instalment of D.A. to Central Government Employees

9915. DR. GOVIND DAS RICHHA-RIYA:

> SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SINHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the period up o which Government have received the All India Working Class Consumers' Price Index (base 1960=100) till date and the latest figures of monthly Price Index;

(b) whether the next instalment of D.A. to the Central Government employees has become due; and

(c) if so, when the same is going to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) Government have received the figures of All Indua Working Class Consumer Price Index (base 1960–100) upto March, 1974. The latest figure of monthly Price Index is 275.

(b) and (c). In terms of the formula of the Third Pay Commission, a further instalment of dearness allowance would be due to the Central Government employees with effect from 1-4-1974. The matter is receiving attention.

Increase in D.A. to Gujarat Govt. Employees

9916. SHRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM: SHRI AMARSINGH CHAU-DHARI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether very recently the Dearness Allowance of Gujarat Government Employees has been increased;

(b) if so, to what extent;

(c) the reasons for the said increase and from when it will be paid; and (d) the total burden thereof on the State exchequer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Keeping in view the rise in prices which has taken place in the last few months, Government of Gujarat have sanctioned to their employees increase in dearness allowance with effect from 1-1-1974 at the rates shown below:—

Pay	range	Amount of increase in the rates of Dearness Allowance.			
Upto 209/-	Rs.	7/—.	Rs.	p. m.	
210		8/			
4001250		10/			
1251-1270		20/-			
1271-1289	Differ	ence of Re	.129/		

(d) The additional expenditure on account of the increase in D.A. will be about Rs. 2.8 crores per annum.

Demand for North Indian Tea

9917. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was great demand for the 36,032 packages of North Indian and African tea offered at the auction in the month of February; and

(b) if so, the amount of foreign exchange earned by India during the last six months from such auctions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) 90,376 chests of North Indian Tea and 51,804 chests of Africa Tea were sold in London Auctions in February, 1974.