

**Proposal to extend Air Services in the Country**

3330. **SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state.

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to introduce more air services in the country;

(b) if so, the names of such places which will appear on the air map of the country during the next three years; and

(c) the funds allocated by Government for the purpose?

**THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR):** (a) to (c). Indian Airlines originally intended to expand their route network. The position is, however, being reviewed in the context of the present fuel crisis.

**Demand made by Pensioners Organisations re. revision of Pension Rules**

3331. **SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether various Pensioners' Organisations in the country have represented to Government for the revision of pension rules consequent upon the steep rise in prices of essential commodities; and

(b) whether Government have considered the matter and if so, the nature of decision taken in this regard?

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

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT**

The scheme of Dearness Allowance as recommended by the Third Pay Commission is applicable to serving Central Government employees. However, in the case of Central Government employees retiring from service on or after 1st January, 1973, i.e., the date from which the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission have been given effect to, the Commission have recommended a separate scheme for grant of relief on account of increase in the cost of living index. According to the recommendations of the Commission, the relief is to be granted to all future pensioners irrespective of the amount of pension drawn by them at the rate of 5 per cent of their pension subject to a minimum of Rs 5 p.m and a maximum of Rs 25 p.m. The relief on these rates is to be given as and when there is a 16 point rise in the 12 monthly average of the All India Working Class Consumer Price Index (1960=100). The relief at 216 points has already become due with effect from 1st August, 1973 and at 232 points with effect from 1st January, 1974. The Commission had recommended that this scheme may be given effect to from 1st March, 1973, but as a measure of liberalisation, the Government have fixed the date of effect as 1st January, 1973 in respect of employees belonging to Classes II, III and IV.

2. Even though the Commission's recommendations were in terms applicable to future pensioners only, it has been decided to extend the benefit of this recommendation of the Commission also to these Central Government employees who retired from service prior to 1st January, 1973.

3. As a measure of additional relief to existing Central Government pensioners, i.e., those who retired prior to 1st January, 1973, and having regard to the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission in the matter of pensionary benefits for serving Central Government employees, the Government have further decided to grant the following ad-hoc relief to such

pensioners with effect from 1st January, 1973:—

<i>Pension range</i>	<i>Ad-hoc increase in pension</i>
Below Rs. 85	Rs. 15
Rs. 85—Rs. 209	Rs. 21
Rs. 210—Rs. 499	Rs. 25
Rs. 500 and above	Rs. 35

Necessary orders in the matter are under issue.

#### Permission to Compromise to raise Capital

3332. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of companies which have been given permission by the Government of India to raise their funds through public subscription during the last three years;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that these companies utilise the amount of public subscription for a certain period, earn profits and then on technical please reject a large number of share applications and refund the money after a long interval without any interest; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to curb this mal-practice?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a) The number of Companies which have been given permission by the Government of India to raise funds through Public Subscription during the last three years are:

1971 (Jan.-Dec.)	35
1972 (Jan.-Dec.)	55
1973 (Jan.-Dec.)	97

The names are given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6444/74].

(b) and (c). The Companies Act, 1956 stipulates that public companies issuing share capital for public subscription through prospectus are required to keep the application moneys in a separate bank account in a Scheduled Bank, on which interest is earned. The period for despatch of allotment letters/share certificates as also refund of application money where no allotment is made or where partial allotment is made, is invariably indicated in the Prospectus. Where issues are over-subscribed, the basis of allotment of shares is settled in consultation with the Stock Exchange concerned keeping in view the 'guidelines' issued by Government from time to time. However, in some cases the allotment of shares and the refund of application money were reported to be delayed and inquiries reveal that in many cases such delays were due to various factors over which the companies did not have full control]

#### Setting up of a Joint Trade Commission by India and France

3333. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Joint Commission consisting of representatives of France and India to promote Trade and Economic Co-operation has been set up recently; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). No, Sir. So far as the promotion of trade relations/cooperation between India and France is concerned, there is already a Commission existing under the Trade Arrangement entered into with France in October, 1959.