

(C) Facilities extended by Press Information Bureau

Newspapers: The Press Information Bureau (PIB), in pursuance of its policy of providing more and more services to the small and medium newspapers, gives a number of special facilities to them. Besides making available its general services such as news releases and features, it has been supplying other types of news services such as science digests, agriculture news letters (Krishi Patrika), Ebonoid blocks, charbas (for Urdu Papers only) and illustrated photo features.

News Services: A number of services tailored to the needs of small papers have been introduced. In-depth stories written in simple and capsule form covering developments in various spheres such as science, economic growth, agriculture, health and family welfare are prepared and supplied to them in all major languages of the country. A weekly news digest Gramin Patra Seva primarily meant for small papers was introduced in Hindi in 1977.

Photo Services: The Bureau also supplies illustrated photo features ebonoid blocks to small papers. The charba services, which consist of Zinc block for use in Urdu Litho Print, have become quite popular.

Special Services Cell: The Bureau has set up a special service Cell at the headquarters with representatives in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. The Cell is entrusted with the task of preparing field based development stories and making them available to the language newspapers. The emphasis is on providing locally relevant photographs, cartographs and ebonoid blocks.

PRESS PARTIES:

Organising press parties to various Central Government projects is another

important activity of the Bureau which enables representatives of the press to have first hand knowledge of the developmental activity going on in different parts of the country. Representatives of different papers are taken at frequent intervals to selected projects for this type of special study. Language and small and medium papers get representation in these conducted tours.

ACCREDITATION:

Accreditation rules have been liberalised to extend greater facilities to small and medium papers. As per rules, only newspapers with a circulation of over 5,000 copies are eligible for accreditation. In order, however, to assist the smaller papers, this condition has been relaxed and now two or more small newspapers can jointly seek accreditation for a common correspondent. The rules also provide that special consideration may be shown to newspapers devoted to science and technology and to those published from hilly or backward areas, or from regions under-developed in terms of information and communication. The Bureau's mailing list now contains a large number of small and medium newspapers as well as correspondents accredited on their behalf.

Cash Compensatory Support on Export of Drugs

8263. SHRI KALPNATH SONKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the cash compensatory support (CCS) given by his ministry on exports of drugs during last three years, year-wise;

(b) the names of major drugs and the basis on which CCS was given on each drug;

(c) whether his ministry has given CCS even in those cases where there has been no substantial gain in foreign exchange; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI AR-ANGIL SHREEDHARAN): (a) Separate information on cash compensatory support (CCS) on export of drugs is not maintained. However, the following CCS was paid during the last three years on the export of Chemicals and Allied Products (including drugs):—

(Rs. in crores)

1986-87	—	55.07
1987-88	—	74.15
1988-89	—	121.72

(b) to (d). Cash Compensatory Support is given to exporters to compensate them for unrebated and unrefunded indirect taxes that are paid on inputs for export production so that Indian goods become internationally competitive. CCS at 15% of the FOB value is admissible on export of drugs with the exception of 27 items of drugs included in the negative list. Actual payment of CCS is subject to the cut-off formula of 25% of value addition.

Equal Wage for Equal Work

8264. SHRI DHARMESH PRASAD VARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the principle of equal wage for equal work has seriously been implemented for the benefit of all the employees of Central Government, Public Sectors and Autonomous bodies:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have received representations from the Central Government employees for not implementing the

principle of equal wage for equal work; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and decision so far taken by Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b). The question for parity at the lowest level where job content, duties and responsibilities are stated to be similar in public undertakings has been looked into by the Fourth Central Pay Commission. The Commission has observed that it appears that the job content of even a peon/messenger in the Central Government may not be similar in all respects with that in the public sector undertakings for a variety of reasons. There are also differences due to combination of tasks. The Commission has further observed that the Administration of the Central Government has acquired its own distinctiveness. There are organised services and cadres with their own hierarchy, suited to the role assigned to them. The duties and responsibilities of the functionaries at various levels are unique and difficult to compare with outside employment. The employment in Government has its own status and security. The pay structure for the employees of such a vast and complex organisation cannot be based in a simple comparison of the pay scales of posts at the lowest level on the public sector undertakings. The public sector undertakings have been created by Government for specified purposes, and have adopted their own pay structure. The nature of work there and the conditions of the service are different. The Commission concluded that the pay structure and conditions of service of Central Government employees have to be determined on their own merits. As such wage structure in the Central Government is distinct from that in the Public Sector Undertakings.

(c) and (d). The Government has been receiving representations from the Central