

(d) the steps taken by the Government to rehabilitate these units; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to revive the units cleared by BIFR?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Revision of Commutation value of Pension

5450. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRIMATI BHAVNA VHIKHLIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to modify the present commutation value of the pension in view of drastic change in rupee value;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there has been comparative losses to retired Government servants from the present rate of commutation in view of reduced value of rupee;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is any proposal to reduce the period from 15 years to 10 years from restoration of commuted portion of pension to pensioners; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (d). The present commutation table which is in force from

1971 is inter-alia based on an interest rate of 4.75%. If the commutation table is revised on the basis of a higher rate of interest on account of decline in rupee value it will have the effect of lowering the commuted value, and will thus be detrimental to the retiring employees. The government have, therefore, decided to maintain status quo in the interest of the employees.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) The existing provisions for restoration of commuted portion of pension on completion of 15 years from the date of commutation have been introduced in implementation of the judgement of the Supreme Court and are based on the calculation that the commuted value paid in lump sum together with the national interest on the said amount gets, by and large, fully adjusted by that period.

Criteria for Users of Subsidised Foodgrains

5451. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
SHRIGOPINATH GAJAPATHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Advisory Council on the public Distribution System has asked the Union Government to lay down the criteria for users of the subsidised foodgrains sold through fair price shops;

(b) if so, the other recommendations made by the Council; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c): At the Fourteenth meeting of the