

1983-84 and 1984-85 as estimated by the Planning Commission at the beginning of the years, and the actual offtake during 1984 are given below :

(i) *Demand as assessed by Planning Commission*

1983-84	147.17 million tonnes
1984-85	155.7 million tonnes

(ii) *Actual offtake during*

1984	139.06 million tonnes
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(Jan. to Dec. '84)

(c) Several steps are being taken to increase the production of coal. These include improving the infrastructural facilities, sanctioning of new mines, improving the productivity of men and machinery, expediting land acquisition for coal mining purposes and controlling absenteeism.

Report of Fourth Pay Commission

341 : PROF. P.J KURIEN :
 SHRI NAVIN RAVANI :
 SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :
 SHRI LALIT MAKEN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which the Fourth Pay Commission's report is expected to be submitted;

(b) whether Government are considering to sanction any interim relief to the Central Government employees; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) :

(a) In accordance with its terms of reference, the Fourth Central Pay Commission will make its recommendations as soon as practicable. It may consider, if necessary,

sending reports on any of the matters as and when the recommendations are finalised. The work of the Commission is in progress. It is, however, not possible at this stage to indicate the time by which the Commission would submit its report.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal at present under the consideration of the Government to sanction another instalment of interim relief to Central Government employees.

Negotiation with Soviet Union for Defence Supplies

342. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the negotiations for Defence supplies with Soviet Union were interrupted when the then Defence Minister had to return home following the assassination of Mrs. Indira Gandhi on October 31 last;

(b) if so, whether he intends to resume these negotiations;

(c) if so, when he proposed to go to Soviet Union; and

(d) whether the supplies being negotiated will cover latest generation of Migs, tanks and field guns ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) The former Raksha Mantri Shri S.B. Chavan led a delegation which arrived in the USSR on 30th October, 1984. The delegation cut short its visit and returned to New Delhi on the 31st October, 1984.

The visit of Raksha Mantri was essentially a goodwill visit. However, aspects of defence cooperation would also have been discussed during talks with Soviet leaders.

(b) to (d). No decisions have yet been taken in this regard.