

प्रतिक्रिया राष्ट्रीय सहकारी विकास निगम को अभी तक नहीं मिली है। तथापि, राष्ट्रीय सहकारी विकास निगम के सहकारी चीनी कारखानों को सहायता देने के प्रतिमान में व्याज-मुक्त ऋण देने की व्यवस्था नहीं है।

Lowering of Interest of Bank Loans Advanced to Small Scale Industry

4351. DR. BALDEV PRAKASH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is under consideration of the Government to lower the interest of the Bank loans advanced to small scale industry and on small loans advanced to unemployed educated young men to start business or industry; and

(b) is it in the notice of Government that with the present heavy rate of interest any new industry is unable to function?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). Loans to small scale industries and the educated unemployed form a part of the priority sector. Advances to small scale industries not exceeding Rs. 2 lakhs and covered by Credit Guarantees Scheme for small scale industries are exempted from the minimum lending rate directive of Reserve Bank of India.

In case of term loans to small scale industries in respect of which refinancing is availed of from Industrial Development Bank of India, banks charge 11 per cent rate of interest and 9.5 per cent in specified backward districts.

In terms of credit policy announced by Reserve Bank of India on 12th December, 1977, banks, in order to stimulate capital investment in the small scale sector, have been advised to charge a rate of interest not exceed-

ing 11 per cent on term loans of maturity not less than three years granted after 1st January, 1978 to units falling under following categories.

(i) Small scale units covered under credit guarantee scheme/and units promoted by technical entrepreneurs.

(ii) Small scale units in specified backward districts/areas.

(iii) Small road transport operators.

This measure is likely to go a long way in providing relief to small scale units and educated employed.

Flight Schedule of Indian Air Lines

4352. SHRI VASAT SATHE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering some changes in the flight schedule of Indian Airlines immediately in near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Indian Airlines authorities are considering means of improving their air services to Nagpur and planning a possible realigning of some air routes for better operational and passenger convenience; and

(d) if so, details of the proposals under consideration of the Air Lines and the decision taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) The following are the salient features of the schedule changes planned with effect from 20th December, 1977:—

New Services:

—Halt at Nagpur on the daily Bombay/Calcutta service (IC —175/176).

- Calcutta/Patna/Calcutta (IC—207/208) thrice a week (introduced with effect from 15th November, 1977)
- Calcutta /Jorhat /Dibrugarh/ Calcutta (IC—213/214) thrice a week.
- Delhi/ Nagpur/ Hyderabad / Nagpur/Delhi (IC—516/515) to operate daily.

Increase in frequencies:

- Additional daily frequency on the Bombay/Trivandrum route (IC-532/531) (introduced with effect from 7th December, 1977).
- Frequency increased on Calcutta/Gauhati/Imphal (IC—217/218) from four days a week to five days a week. On remaining two days the service will operate as Calcutta/Gauhati/Dibrugarh.
- IC—137/138 will operate daily on the sector Bombay/Keshod/ Porbander.
- On Delhi/Kathmandu (IC-413/414) from thrice weekly to six days a week (introduced with effect from 15th November, 1977).
- Frequency increased on Calcutta /Hyderabad /Bangalore (IC—269/270) from five days a week to daily.
- Daily halt at Kanpur on service IC—411/412.
- Increase in frequency to Jabalpur and Raipur on IC—469/470 from two times a week to three times a week.

Replacement of Turbo-prop by Boeing —737 aircraft:

- On Bombay/Hyderabad route (IC—117/118) the ten frequencies per week with the Caravelle has been changed to twice daily with the Boeing—737.

- Calcutta/Agartala (IC—235/236) Boeing—737 to replace the F-27.

- Bombay/Karachi (IC—131/132) Boeing—737 to replace the Caravelle (introduced with effect from 7th December, 1977).

- Trivandrum/Colombo (IC—507/508). Boeing—737 to replace the HS—748 (introduced with effect from 2nd November, 1977).

- Bombay/Goa/Bangalore (IC—523/524) Boeing—737 to be replaced by Caravelle.

- Bombay Bhavnagar/ Bombay (IC—135/136) Boeing—737 to replace HS—748 (introduced with effect from 7th December 1977).

- Bombay/ Mangalore/ Bombay (IC—159/160) Boeing—737 to replace HS—748 (introduced with effect from 7th December 1977).

Miscellaneous:

- IC—461/462 (Delhi/Ahmedabad/Delhi) to operate daily on the Delhi/Ahmedabad/Bombay sector (introduced with effect from 7th December, 1977).
- IC—211/212 to operate daily on the sector Calcutta/Gauhati/Tezpur/Dimapur/Jorhat/Lila/ bari//Dibrugarh sector.
- IC—439/440 to operate direct daily on the sector Delhi/Madras/Delhi.
- IC—403/404 to operate direct daily on the sector Delhi/Bangalore/Delhi.

(c) and (d). Indian Airlines are withdrawing the present HS—748 service between Bombay and Nagpur and introducing a daily halt at Nagpur on the direct Boeing—737 service between Bombay and Calcutta. This will not only meet the Bombay/Nagpur

demands, but will also restore the Nagpur/Calcutta airlink. Further, a new daily Boeing-737 service linking Nagpur with Delhi and Hyderabad is being introduced and Nagpur is being taken off as a halt on the Delhi/Madras service, restoring direct daily operation.

Gold Dealers' Licences in Maharashtra

4353. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have revised/relaxed rules relating to issue of Gold licences;

(b) if so, the details of the changes/revision effected;

(c) the total number of Gold dealers with licences in Maharashtra as on 31st March, 1977 and the number of fresh applications received for Gold dealers licences thereafter and cleared so far and the number pending; and

(d) what steps are taken to simplify the procedure and expedite grant of Gold dealers licences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): (a) and (b). The Gold Control (Licensing of Dealers) Rules, 1969 were amended by issue of notification S.O. No. 751(E) dated 4th November 1977 by which the qualifying limit of turnover for certified goldsmiths to obtain a gold dealer's licence has been brought down from 5 kgs to 2 kgs; similarly the quantity and value stipulated for grant of dealer's licence for export of ornaments have been lowered from one thousand grammes and rupees one lakh to hundred grammes and rupees ten thousand respectively. Provision has also been made for separating partners of a partnership firm holding a dealer's licence to obtain gold dealer's licences on certain conditions. Employees in a licensed gold dealer's firm having prescribed experience will also be eligible for gold dealer's licences on certain conditions.

(c) Total number of Gold dealers licences in Maharashtra as on 31st March 1977 was 1811. Thereafter, 131 fresh applications were received and 90 have been disposed of leaving a pendency of 41.

(d) The existing procedure has been designed to fulfil the requirements of the provisions of the Gold (Control) Act and the Rules made thereunder relating to the issue of gold dealers licences, no further simplification at the moment appears necessary. The matter is, however, kept under review.

Revision in the Rates of Pension Permissible to Central Government Servants

4354. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present rates of pensions permissible to Central Government servants is very meagre keeping in view the price index; and

(b) whether Government are taking any steps to revise the rates of pension payable to the retired Government servants particularly those who retire from lower jobs and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). The rates of pension admissible to Central Government servants are fixed from time to time after their examination by expert bodies like the Pay Commissions. The present rates were fixed with effect from 1-1-1973 on the recommendation of the Third Pay Commission, and a review of these rates is, therefore, not considered necessary so soon. As regards rise in the price index, retired Government servants, including those retiring from lower jobs, are given relief on pension from time to time. The present rate of such relief is 30 per cent of pension subject to a minimum of Rs. 30 per month and a maximum of Rs. 150 per month.