

10. (i) Loans for purchase of consumer durables

(ii) Loans to individuals against shares and debentures/bonds

(iii) Other non-priority sector personal loans

Banks are free to determine the rate

Note: Where short-term loans are routed through PACS/LAMPS/FSS the rates of interest to be charged by banks to the PACS/LAMPS/FSS shall be 2.5 percentage points lower than the rates to the ultimate borrowers indicated in item 1 above for the respective size of the limit.

Rate of interest on deposits applicable with effect from 9th October, 1991

(Excluding FCNR/NRE Deposits)

(Per cent per annum)

<i>Category of Account</i>		
(i)	Current	Nil
(ii)	Saving	5.0
(iii)	<i>Term Deposits</i>	
(a)	46 days to less than one year	11.0
(b)	One year to less than three years	12.0
(c)	Three years and above	13.0

[Translation]

Income tax Raids on Coal Traders

1654. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether raids were conducted by the Income Tax Department during January and February, 1992 on coal traders in Bihar and West Bengal to unearth the black money;

(b) if so, the establishments in Patna, Dhanbad, Bokaro, Calcutta and Ranchi which were raided; and

(c) the details of black money and incriminating documents recovered during these raids?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). The following business concerns of the Sanwar Mal Poddar Group located at Dhanbad and Bokaro were searched:-

- (i) M/s Basudha Udyog, Bokaro.
- (ii) M/s Bajrangbali Metal Industries, Dhanbad.
- (iii) M/s Anjani Briquette Industries, Dhanbad.
- (iv) M/s Kalimata Trading Company, Dhanbad.

The searches resulted in the seizure of cash of Rs. 1.39 lakhs and other valuables worth Rs. 2.37 lakhs, apart from books of account and documents.

[English]

One-Rank One-Penson

1655. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:

SHRIPAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:

SHRI BARE LAL JATAV:
 SHRI PROBIN DEKA:
 SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:
 SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
 DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS
 PATEL:
 SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:
 SHRI MOHAN SINGH:
 SHRI JANGBIR SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received the report of the high level committee on one rank one-pension;

(b) if so, the recommendations made by the Committee;

(c) whether the Government propose to implement the report in to to;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the time by which it is likely to be implemented; and

(f) the other facilities being provided by the Government to the defence pensioners?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (f). The Government have decided to accept in toto the unanimous recommendations contained in the report of the High Level Empowered Committee. Government orders in this regard are under issue.

A statement on the recommendations made by the Committee and the other facilities granted to ex-Servicemen is attached.

STATEMENT

A. Recommendations of High Level Empowered Committee

The High Level Empowered Committee made the following recommendations.

Sepoy Pensioners

(i) The rates of pension of Sepoys who retired on or after 1.1.1986 with 15 to 17 years of service may be amended by giving them benefit of 18 years qualifying service. In other words, the post 1.1.1986 Sepoy pensioners with 15 to 17 years of service may also be given the pension equal to that of a Sepoy with 18 years service.

(ii) The pension of all pre- 1.1. 1973 retirees may be brought at par with those who retired on or immediately after 1.1.1973 and it may be further stepped up to the level arrived at by neutralising 95% of the differential between the post 1.1.1986 and post 1.1.1973 rates of pension. The difference between the pension so arrived at and the existing pension may be allowed as a one-time increase.

2. NCOs/JCOs/Honorary Commissioned Officers

A one-time increase in pension may be granted at par with the adhoc ex-gratia increase in pension admissible under the scheme approved by the National Front Government.

3. Commissioned Officers below Rank of Colonel

The original pension sanctioned at the time of retirement to pre-1.1.1973 officer retirees upto the rank of Lt. Col may be brought at par with the original pension sanctioned to those who retired on or immediately after 1.1.1973. The original pension increased as above for pre-1.1.1973 retirees as also the original pension of the retirees between 1.1.1973 to 31.12.1985 may be further raised by giving the benefits of 33 years qualifying service. Thereafter, the revised consolidated pension (RCP) may be determined in the manner suggested by the

4th Central Pay Commission. The difference between the revised consolidated pension worked out as above and the existing pension may be sanctioned as one-time increase in pension.

4. *Officers - Colonel and above*

The existing pension of pre 1.1. 1973 retirees in these ranks may be brought at par with those who retired on or immediately after 1.1.1973.

5. *PRE 1.6.1953 Retirees*

The pension of pre 1.6.1953 retirees in all ranks may also be improved on the same principles as outlined above and suitable instructions issued by the Ministry of Defence.

6. *Other Principles*

All other principles engrained in the Scheme for adhoc increase in Pension approved by the National Front Government will be applicable to the proposed scheme for sanctioning one-time increase in pension.

7. *Ex-gratia family pension to families of deceased reservists*

The families of such Reservists who had opted for payment of one-time lumpsum gratuity and ceased to be pensioners, may be granted an ex-gratia family pension of Rs. 150/- p.m. as done in respect of families of deceased Contributory Provident Fund beneficiaries.

8. *Option for Drawal of more Advantageous family pension*

The families of ex-Servicemen in receipt of two pensions, who are currently drawing the less advantageous Family Pension, will be given an option to choose the better of the two family pensions.

9. *Speedy Implementation*

The Ministry of Defence may ensure time-bound implementation of the proposed scheme.

10. *World War Veterans*

Ministry of Defence may examine the provision of suitable relief to the world Wars I and II veterans in a comprehensive manner.

11. *Other Problems of Ex-servicemen*

Raksha Mantri will set up a suitable committee to examine the remainder problems of ex-servicemen on a time limited basis and suggest appropriate solution thereto.

12. *Date of Commencement*

The increased benefits admissible as result of implementing the recommendations of the High Level Empowered Committee may be allowed with effect from 1.1.1992.

B. *Packing of Facilities/concessions to Armed Forces Pensioners*

There is a comprehensive package of facilities/concessions/welfare measures to which Armed Forces Pensioners are entitled. The important facilities/concessions are indicated below:

(a) Eligibility to apply against vacancies reserved for ex-Servicemen under the Central Government Departments/Public Sector Undertakings.

(b) Eligible to avail of any of the training Schemes meant for ex-Servicemen to improve their skills.

(c) Eligible to avail of facility for starting self-employment ventures under several schemes, major among them being SEMFEXI, SEMFEX II, SEMFEX III. There

are a number of other schemes such as allotment of petroleum product agencies, allotment of Unit Trust of India agency, transportation agencies for coal and petroleum products etc. which can also be taken advantage of by the Pensioners.

(d) Free medical facilities in the Military Hospitals.

(e) Canteen facilities.

(f) In case of need, eligible for financial assistance provided by the KSB, Services Headquarters and other Organisations.

(g) children of those Pensioners who were disabled in action enjoy educational concessions like complete exemption from tuition and other fees, hostel charges, cost of books and other stationery, cost of uniform etc. upto first Degree Course.

(h) Provision of artificial limbs and surgical appliances for disabled/War Injury Pensioners.

(i) Special pension of Rs. 50/- per month in case of blinded Pensioners whose blindness is attributable to military service.

(j) Constant Attendance Allowance in appropriate cases irrespective of the rank to War Injury Pensioners.

(k) In addition, there are a number of other welfare measures undertaken by the State Government which are available for the benefit of these Pensioners. The position however, differs from State to State.

[Translation]

Trade Agreement with Erstwhile Soviet Republics

1656. KUMARI UMA BHARTI:
SHRI E. AHAMED:

SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
SHRI PRATAPRAO B.
BHONSLE:
DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent developments in the erstwhile USSR have caused apprehension among the Indian exporters of various commodities;

(b) if so, the commodities which have been adversely affected;

(c) the extent of fall in trade and the loss suffered so far;

(d) whether the Government have made trade agreements with the new Republics;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to make trade agreements with all the Republics?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). The political and economic uncertainties that the erstwhile Soviet Union underwent had generally an adverse impact on Indian export causing some amount of apprehension and uncertainty to Indian exporters. The exports to erstwhile USSR declined by about Rs. 1198 crores during the period April-Nov., 1991 as compared to April-Nov. 1990. Sectoral performance in the engineering, textiles, leather and mineral and one sectors was low as compared to the 1991 Indo-Soviet Trade Plan provisions.

(d) to (f). Yes, Sir. Trade agreements have already been concluded with kazakistan and Uzbekistan. The Trade Protocol with Russia has also been signed. Discussions have also been held with the Republics of Ukraine, Belarus and Azerbaijan.