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Title: Demand to provide Regional Rural Banks employees scales and allowances and other service conditions at par with the National bank employees.

**SHRI MANNE SRINIVAS REDDY (MAHBUBNAGAR):** Hon. Speaker, Sir, AIBOC, an apex forum of trade unions of Regional Rural Banks has been fighting for the last one decade for parity in scales and allowances and other service conditions at par with the banking industry as per the National Industrial Tribunal and verdicts of the hon. Supreme Court. A number of conditions were also placed in scales and allowances level in the last 2-3 three years. But the issues are inordinately pending with the Department of Financial Services for clearances. In respect of these issues, directions have been given by some hon. High Courts, the hon. Supreme Court, and it was also recommended by a Joint Consultative Committee headed by NABARD.

Regional Rural Banks, then 45 in number, were established in 1975. And within, four-and-a-half decades, these banks have been able to emerge as the largest banks of rural India having more than 20,000 branches and about one lakh staff strength by way of achieving all targets under Government-sponsored schemes and economic programmes. These banks have played a pivotal role in the lives of rural people living below poverty line. The customer base of Regional Rural Banks has now exceeded to 30 crores cutting across a large number of rural people. Thank you.