

Retirement of Ex-Governor of Reserve Bank

954. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) when was the Ex-Governor of Reserve Bank Shri K. R. Puri due to retire under rules;

(b) whether the Governor retired from the service earlier than the schedule; and

(c) if so, what reasons he has assigned for his earlier retirement?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). The term of Shri K. R. Puri, former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India was due to expire on 19th August, 1978. He was allowed to retire from the post of the Governor on 2nd May, 1977 at his own request. Shri Puri did not assign any reasons for his retirement.

पटना से दिल्ली के लिए प्रातः विमान-सेवा

955. डा० रामजी सिंह : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार पटना से प्रातः विमान सेवा न होने के कारण लोगों को होने वाली कठिनाइयों से अवगत है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार का पटना से दिल्ली के लिए कोई प्रातः विमान सेवा प्रारम्भ करने का प्रस्ताव है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : : (क) और (ख), इंडियन एयरलाइन्स का पटना-दिल्ली सेक्टर पर प्रातःकालीन सेवा चलाने का फिलहाल कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है क्योंकि इसके विमान बेंड़े के सभी विमान वर्तमान समयसारणी के अनुसार पूर्ण रूप से व्यस्त हैं ।

Legal Notice served on S.T.C.

965. SHRI P. K. DEO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any legal notice has been served on the State Trading Corporation by some foreign company for not fulfilling contractual obligation of supplying fermented ethyl alcohol steadily;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any study as to why the supply could not be maintained properly; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) STC had entered into two contracts with a Swiss firm for supply of 8,200 metric tons of ethyl alcohol. After part supplies had been affected, shortages started appearing in the States from where Release Orders had been made by Government. While efforts to procure alcohol from elsewhere were being made, the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers reviewed the production and demand for alcohol in the country for the alcohol year 1976-77 and had to revoke the export authorisation itself.

The legal notice has been suitably replied by the S.T.C.

Loan Scheme for Poor

957. SHRI P. K. DEO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any loan scheme for poor to cover more areas and to expand and streamline the differential rate of interest under which weaker sections are given bank loans at the very low interest rate of 4 per cent; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines of this Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes; Sir.

(b) A copy of the revised guidelines of Differential Rate of Interest Scheme is enclosed herewith.

Statement

Revised Guidelines on Differential Rate of Interest Scheme

1. Scope and Coverage

1.1. The Scheme will be operative in the entire country.

1.2. **Target.**—Banks should lend under the scheme minimum of $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per cent of their aggregate advances as at the end of previous year.

1.3. In order to ensure that the weaker sections in the rural area derive maximum benefit under the scheme and bulk of the advances are not preempted by urban/metropolitan areas, the banks operating the scheme will ensure that not less than 2/3rd of their advances under this scheme are routed through their rural and semi-urban branches. Correspondingly not more than 1/3rd of their credit under the scheme may go from their urban and metropolitan branches.

1.4. To ensure that persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes get their due share of benefits under the scheme, not less than 1/3rd of the bank credit under the scheme should flow to the eligible borrowers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

2. Operational Agencies

2.1. **Public Sector Banks.**—The scheme of Differential Rate of Interest will be operated by all the public sector banks.

2.2. **Non-nationalised banks.**—Non-nationalised banks having lead responsibilities will operate the scheme at

least in their lead districts. Other non-nationalised banks may also implement the scheme on a voluntary basis.

2.3. **Regional Rural Banks.**—Under the scheme of Regional Rural Banks, credit is to be made available to the borrowers at the same rates as the cooperatives. These banks are therefore, not permitted to advance credit at concessional rates of interest. To ensure that the persons served by these banks can also avail themselves of the benefits of the Scheme, the sponsoring banks may lend through Regional Rural Banks on an agency basis. Thus, eligible borrowers will be able to obtain loans at the rate of 4 per annum in the areas served by the Regional Rural Banks.

3. **Eligibility Criteria.**—The categories of persons enumerated in para 4 will be eligible to the benefits of the scheme even if they have no tangible security of any worth to offer or cannot produce a security/guarantee of a well to do party, provided they satisfy the criteria laid down below:

3.1. Family income of the borrower from all sources does not exceed Rs. 3,000/-per annum in urban or semi-urban areas or Rs. 2,000/-per annum in rural areas.

3.2. He does not own any land or the size of his holding does not exceed one acre in the case of irrigated land and 2.5 acres in the case of un-irrigated land.

3.3. Members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are eligible for the loan irrespective of their land to holdings, provided they satisfy the other criteria.

3.4. He can be helped to rise above his present economic level through a productive endeavour with assistance from banks, the productive endeavour being as such would become economically viable within a period of, say, 3 years.