

**Payment of pension to Defence Services Pensioners through Nationalised Banks**

711. SHRI F.H. MOHSIN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2097 on 4th March, 1983 regarding payment of pension to Defence Services pensioners through nationalised banks and state :

(a) whether any decision has since been taken to pay the pension through the nationalised banks to the retired Defence Services personnel holding Hony. Commissions ;

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof and whether a copy of the instructions issued to the authorities concerned in this behalf will be laid on the Table of the House ; and

(c) if not, at what stage the matter stands at present and how long more will it take to sort out this matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government have since decided that the work of disbursement of defence pensions in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, J & K and the Union Territories of Chandigarh and Delhi, be taken over from the Post Offices by the Pension Pay Masters to be established by the Controller of Defence Accounts (Pensions) in a phased manner starting from 1.1.84. As a result the concerned pensioners will have the option to draw their pension through the authorised nationalised banks, as well.

The process of take over is likely to be completed in a year's time. A copy of the instructions issued in this regard by the Post & Telegraph Department is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in library. See No. L.T. 7055/83.]

(c) Does not arise.

**Limit of Advancing Credits by Regional Rural Banks**

712. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Regional Rural Banks can advance credits upto the limit of fifty thousands rupees for self employed productive endeavours by educated and other unemployed youth ;

(b) if so, details and terms and conditions there about ;

(c) whether any approach has been made for turning Madhubani and Mithila Regional Rural Banks in Bihar as Pilot Regional Rural Banks concentrating mainly on self-employed productive endeavours to act as pace setters for increasing production of goods and commodities in backward areas ; and

(d) if so, steps taken in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) There is no ceiling on the amount of loan that can be advanced by the Regional Rural Banks for productive ventures of eligible borrowers.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble Member himself had made such a suggestion. The lending operations of all the Regional Rural Banks are primarily directed towards supporting productive endeavours of borrowers belonging to the weaker, sections of the community in all sectors of the rural economy. All Regional Rural Banks are expected to endeavour for promoting self-employment ventures and in specific areas they could devote greater effort to specific area of activity. It is not, however, considered advisable to restrict their lending operations to any particular sector of the rural economy in any area, as it would deprive the people undertaking economic activities in other sectors in that area of credit support from the Regional Rural Banks.

**Civilian Employees of Border Road Development Organisation**