

Title: Regarding parity in wages of the employees of Regional Rural Banks with the nationalised banks.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, the Regional Rural Banks have been requesting parity in wages *vis-à-vis* employees of nationalised banks. The National Industrial Tribunal, in 1987, gave an award to the effect that the pay scales of employees of Regional Rural Banks should be at par with the employees of the nationalised banks. This award was implemented in 1991. Subsequently, there were two bipartite wage agreements with the unions of nationalised banks and the wages of the employees of nationalised banks were enhanced. But these bipartite agreements were not extended to the employees of Regional Rural Banks.

Sir, the High Courts of Kerala and Karnataka have given judgements in favour of parity in wages of the employees of Regional Rural Banks with the nationalised banks.

Then, the Government of India filed a Special Leave Petition in the Supreme Court and the Supreme Court has also given its judgement on 31st January, 2001.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, you have started a discussion here.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : No, Sir; I have not started a discussion. I would like to quote only the relevant portion of the judgement. It says:

* Not Recorded

"We have upheld the contention of the appellants with regard to the power of Central Government to decide the pay structure of the employees of Regional Rural Banks. Here, there cannot be any doubt that in so deciding the Central Government would be duty bound to maintain parity with the pay structure of the employees of Nationalised Banks in the same sense and spirit as Justice Shri Obul Reddy decided and as was given effect to by the Union Government in the year 1987."

Sir, this is a long pending issue. So, I demand that the Government of India should implement the judgement of the Supreme Court which was given on 31st January, 2001, with regard to the pay structure of the employees of Regional Rural Banks and give parity of wages to them at par with the employees of nationalised Banks, without further delay.