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Title: Problems being faced by the employees of Regional Rural Banks in the Country.

SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY (BELLARY): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Finance Minister to the problems being faced by the employees of the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs). The employees of the RRBs are facing seven problems.

The RRB employees have been considered at par with the staff of sponsor bank in the matter of pay, allowance and other benefits. But in reality, there is a lot of parity in all allowances and other benefits given to the RRB employees and the Government of India should implement other allowances and benefits at par with sponsor bank to RRB staff immediately. The present system of pension scheme 1995 is not suitable for bank officers and employees. The Union Government should implement the pension scheme specially designed and implemented in banking industry for RRB staff too.

The Union Government should immediately stop outsourcing of banking services to outsiders as the system of outsourcing is not only giving room for leakage of customer details but also it denies permanent employment to deserved candidates. To improve and strengthen the rural credit systems and banking services to rural people more effective, the Union Government should consider formation of National Rural Bank of India by amalgamating all the RRBs. I am given to understand that a proposal in this regard is pending with the Union Government and there is an urgent need to clear this important proposal for the benefit of rural people.

The NABARD has implemented payment of *ex-gratia* (lump sum amount) in lieu of appointment on compassionate grounds in RRBs. This causes problems to the families of the deceased employee. There is an urgent need to continue the appointment on compassionate grounds under existing norms/guidelines.

The RRBs' internal promotions have been held up and there were no continuity in internal promotions. The employees who are serving in the Bank as Clerks for the past 25-30 years are still working as clerks. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

\*\*SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY (BELLARY): The Union Government should intervene in the matter and arrange for the promotion of staff of RRBs who have put minimum required number of service in a particular cadre.

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\* Not recorded.

\*\* The Speech was laid on the Table

There has been a continuous upward growth in Branch expansion which means the workload of the employees is also increasing drastically. To cope up with the situation, the Union Government should consider appointment of manpower by direct recruitment for the vacancies in the RRBs.

Keeping these in view, I once again urge upon the Union Government to mitigate the problems being faced by the employees of RRBs so that it can serve the people, especially rural people, more effectively. Thank you.