

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

*Thursday, August 6, 1987/Sravana 15,
1909 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of
the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*English*]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHURY:
Today the House is very calm and quiet.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Calm before
storms.

MR. SPEAKER: A lull before storm.

HOMAGE TO VICTIMS OF FIRST ATOMIC BOMB DROPPED ON HIROSHIMA

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, this day, 42 years ago, the first atomic bomb was dropped on the Japanese city of Hiroshima killing thousands of people and maiming or disabling for life a very large number of people. The years that have gone by have witnessed development of nuclear weapons thousands of times more powerful than the atomic bomb that fell on Hiroshima. We reiterate the demand of all human kind for immediate stoppage of the nuclear race and for dismantling the existing nuclear stockpiles.

The House may now stand in silence for a shortwhile in the memory of the victims of the atomic holocaust.

*The Members then stood in silence for a
shortwhile.*

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MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramoowalia.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*Translation*]

Loans to Unemployed Youths

*141. SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA:
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has recently announced more liberal policy regarding loans to unemployed youths;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the time by which this scheme is likely to be implemented; and

(d) whether remote rural areas will be given preference in the matter of implementing this scheme?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (d). The Reserve Bank of India has recently announced some more concessions with regard to loans given by banks under the scheme for providing Self-Employment to Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY). The loans of more than Rs. 25,000/- but not more than Rs. 35,000/- would also now carry a lower rate of interest as applicable to loans for Rs. 25,000/- and less. Further no margin or collateral security would be required for these loans.

It is an ongoing scheme to be continued till the end of the Seventh Plan period and sanctions/disbursements are being made every year. The scheme covers the entire country, including rural areas, except cities and towns having population exceeding 10 lakhs as per 1981 census.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Sir, according to the statement, some steps have been taken regarding provision of loans for self-employment of uneducated unemployed youth. According to a Report, in a meeting with the Prime Minister by the Governor of RBI, it was decided that loan limit will be raised from Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 30,000 at a lower rate of interest, i.e. upto 10 per cent. Sir, it is a very good step. But the point is, whether the Minister is aware that there are large number of complaints received from the unemployed youth that if they go to the banks to collect the money or to have the recommendations of the Managers, the Managers are openly demanding a share from the loan amount, i.e. in the range of 5 per cent to 10 per cent. This share reaches upto top executives in case of certain banks. So, whenever the top executives are approached, they give the general impression that we are not happy to be under the control of the Government. Many complaints have been made to the Minister of State for Finance and he had also assured me in his two letters that "I am taking the matter with that bank." But every time, no action has been taken. My point is that to reduce the harassment of unemployed youth at the hands of the Managers who demand money, what steps is your Government taking; how many cases have come to your notice, and what type of action has been taken so far against guilty persons?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: We have sanctioned loans to the extent of Rs. 455 crores, and we have received some complaints. We have ordered enquiries. At some places, in some parts of the country where we had ordered enquiries, in some cases we have taken action. In some cases,

the report has come that the complaints are false and baseless. The complainants themselves are giving the statement: "Without knowing it, we have lodged the complaint." In such cases, I request the hon. Members: whenever there are such cases, if they can kindly take this much interest there also and at the grass-root level, pursue the matter and also give evidence, action will be taken.

In the month of January, we have taken action, not particularly in this case, but we have taken action against 49 Bank officers, and their Houses were also raided. This type of an action is a continuous one, and we will not spare any person. Whenever complaints are received, without any reservation we are ordering enquiries; and if the hon. Members i.e. some of the Members like Mr. Ramoowalia who happen to come to me, pursue the matter like this, we will be in a position to give a better performance. We will also take further action.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Due to failure of the monsoon and other reasons, and the shortfall in the generation of electricity etc., there has been a sudden increase in the number of unemployed youth. Side by side, the unemployed youth has to seek guidance. Proper guidance is not given to the unemployed youth, viz. on wherefrom he should get money, and what type of a profession he should start. Is your Government making any arrangement to provide guidelines or guidance to the unemployed youth in tracing out certain works, professions etc. in this manner?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: There are the District Industries Centres and also the Task Force which have been given the work of identifying the beneficiaries. It is true that sufficient publicity is not there. When this was brought to the notice of the Government, the literatures have been printed. But I do not say that the literature, by itself, will be sufficient. For that purpose, I am moving from place to place-

per week I am addressing not less than 1½ to 2 lakh people; and I am telling people the details of this programme, how to identify the loan areas, how to get the loan and also whether surety is required—all these things are explained to the people throughout the country, in the public credit camps.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: There are so many unemployed youths in the country. The hungry young men are likely to become angry young men of this nation. The needy are not getting the assistance; only the greedy get the benefits of the scheme for the unemployed.

The Prime Minister recently announced a self-employment programme. We are happy about it. But in this programme, there are so many bottlenecks. Actually, the finance or the amount given to the unemployed people is very little. It is under-financed, and there are lots of delay really, in the disbursement of the loans. And also improper planning and improper policing of this loan is taking place. Also, I would like to mention in this House that due to appointment of some Chairmen of these Nationalised Banks, who do not have conviction to propagate these programmes to the people of the society, the poor people of the society are not getting the loan. The Chairmen only bother about the South Block, Star Hotels and scotch whisky: and these programmes are going on without being implemented properly. The Managers who are actually implementing them at the grass-root level, they are not able to get proper instructions. There is a big lacuna between the Government and the Chairmen and between the Chairmen and the Managers. I request the Government to see that there should be some incentive or some award should be given or some promotion should be given to those Managers who are actually implementing these programmes, who are actually disbursing loan to the proper people and who are properly collecting loan from these self-employed people. I request the Government to come out with such type of a scheme so that these programmes will

boost up the image of the Government and unemployed people will also get loan. Is there any proposal before the Government to provide one job to at least one member of a family before going for next general election or the mid-term poll?

MR. SPEAKER: You have started liking every person.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: As far as identification of the beneficiaries is concerned, it is done through the State Government, particularly when the task force is there, which is headed by a General Manager of a District Industry Centre. The Credit Managers are also involved in that committee. If they discharge their functions effectively then there will not be any difficulty in the field. If the State Governments also formulate good plans and also proper planning is done at the State level for the implementation of these programmes, then also this implementation could be done very effectively. So far as the commitments of the Chairmen are concerned, I fully agree with the hon. Member that today the nation requires people at the helm of affairs who are committed to the programmes and who are committed to the welfare of the weaker sections. I share the concern of the hon. House and we will take into consideration all these points at the time of appointment of the Chief Executives. So far as identification of the Bank Managers who are effective at the field is concerned, it is my conviction also that the persons who are effective at the field level, who are efficient and also who are doing their work without taking any bribe, such persons should be encouraged even at the cost of political interference. If such persons are there, I will definitely interfere and protect such persons.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: What about giving award or promotion to the Bank Managers who are effective at the field level?

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN PANDEY: Mr. Speaker,

Sir, the scheme which has been formulated by the Government to provide employment opportunities to the common people is praiseworthy. However, some shortcomings are evident in it at the stage of implementation. Is the hon. Minister aware of it? For example, the selection of the beneficiaries is done by a separate body. The list thus prepared is then sent to the banks from where the beneficiaries are to get loans. However, when they go the Banks, they are asked to come later as the money is not available with them at that time. This is how they plan to extract money from the poor people. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether any other scheme has been formulated to remove this shortcoming and to prevent exploitation of our youth, and if so, the details thereof and whether wide publicity will be given to it so that this practice of taking bribe from our youth is stopped?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): The suggestion given by the hon. Member is certainly worth considering. When I was in the Ministry of Industries, such complaints were received and it was felt that evaluation should be made. The difficulties which arise while selecting the beneficiaries and distributing funds, are to be kept in view while improving the system. I expect the hon. Members to give suggestions on the basis of their experience as to how the process can be made less complicated and easy.

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Our Minister can write Hindi lbrat.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: He can write many more things.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): Jaipalji, if you write, you will also get loan.

[English]

Promotion Policy of Syndicate Bank

*142. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA:
DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the date since when the existing policy for promotions from JM Scale-I to II came into force in Syndicate Bank; and

(b) the reasons for not making reservations for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes officers in such promotions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (b). A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a) The bank has informed that the existing promotion policy came into effect from 20.4.1983.

(b) As per the guidelines contained in the Brochure on Reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Services (Sixth Edition), reservations do not apply to promotions within officers cadre Group A if they are based on selection. Syndicate Bank has reported that it follows the selection method in promotions within its officers cadres and therefore is not applying reservations for Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes. The bank is, however, providing for concessions to the Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes in such promotions in terms of Para 12.2 (a) of the Brochure.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister the date on which orders for making reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were issued? You have stated in your reply that in the Syndicate Bank the policy came into force in 1983 but whether this is consistent with the Government's orders?