

**MR. SPEAKER:** Please don't; no interruptions please.

**PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA:** This is the fact. Now, to remedy the situation, we have appointed a very high-level committee consisting of the Textile Commissioner, the Managing Director of the Cotton Corporation, as also some people from Nagpur, a particular research institute who are looking into this problem and who have (*Interruptions*) highlighted these things. (*Interruptions*). Let me finish.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Don't disturb him. Otherwise he will not be able to finish.

**PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA:** (*Interruptions*) Listen to me first. So, this high-power committee, which includes representatives from the public sector undertaking and some research institutes who are looking into this problem, has brought to our notice these things. By the end of April, this committee has been asked to submit the report. This is essential to bring about a sort of rational parity and linkage between the cotton price and the cloth price. That is what we are doing.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Shri Indrajit Gupta, No.? Mr K. Gopal

**SHRI K. GOPAL:** I would like to know whether it is a fact that there is no machinery at all with the Government to determine the cost of production in relation to the price of cotton and the price of cloth; and that the Government depends entirely on the figures supplied by the ICMF.

**PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA:** We have some figures and facts available, both from the ICMF as also from the Textile Commissioner; but recently we have asked the Department of Company Affairs; and in pursuance thereof, the Department of Company Affairs have issued a notification in terms of which every textile unit will be required, quarterly, to submit all

the figures pertaining to the subjects that have been discussed here now.

**Pay Scales of Clerical Staff of Nationalised Banks**

\*163. **SHRI B. R. SHUKLA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the existing pay scales of the clerical staff of nationalised banks; and

(b) the pay scales of clerical staff serving in the Reserve Bank of India?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE & BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE):**

(a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

*Statement*

(a) and (b) The existing pay scales for clerks in nationalised banks and Reserve Bank of India are as given below:—

(i) **Nationalised banks:**

Rs. 170—10—200—13—226—14—  
240—15—285—20—345—25—420—  
30—480—35—550 (20 years).

(ii) **Reserve Bank of India:**

Rs. 210—10—240—15—330—30—  
410 — EB — 25 — 460 — 30 —  
520 — 35 — 590 (20 years).

**SHRI B. R. SHUKLA:** According to the statement supplied by the hon. Minister, the initial pay of clerks of nationalised banks is Rs. 170 and the maximum goes up to Rs. 550, while the initial pay of the clerks of the Reserve Bank of India is Rs. 210 and the maximum goes up to Rs. 590. May I know whether there are any differences in the requisite qualifications for recruitment to the two categories of clerks and also whether there is any basic difference in the nature of work performed by them?

**SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE:** By and large, the qualifications and the job requirements are the same. But the difference in the pay scales at the initial stage is mainly because of the fact that the employees in the nationalised banks and other banks are entitled to have bonus—even after the new enactment, they are entitled to have *ex-gratia* payment—while the employees of the Reserve Bank are not entitled to have the same. But the dearness allowance formula is more or less the same and the total emoluments they get, the total pay packet at the end of the month, is more or less on par.

**Schemes formulated by Nationalised Banks to rehabilitate freed Bonded Labourers**

\*165. **SHRI S. M. SIDDAYYA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the schemes formulated and implemented by each of the nationalised banks to rehabilitate the freed bonded labourers in each State and Union Territory?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE):** Most of the nationalised banks and other public sector banks have formulated and are implementing schemes for providing financial assistance to released bonded labourers to take up some gainful occupation like agriculture, dairying, poultry, cottage industry, small business, etc. Under these schemes 100 per cent finance is generally provided without insisting on any margin or security on the basis of group guarantees. Wherever, borrowers are eligible for finance under the DIR scheme, loan is provided at 4 per cent interest and in other cases concessional interest rate varying between 10 per cent and 12 per cent is charged.

**SHRI S. M. SIDDAYYA:** It is clear from the answer given by the Minister that all the nationalised banks

are not implementing the scheme for the rehabilitation of the freed bonded labour. May I know whether the Government have issued any guidelines to all the nationalised banks to make provision for giving loans to these bonded labour and, if so, how is it that some of these banks are not implementing this scheme?

**SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE:** All the nationalised banks ought to implement these schemes. At the meeting which I had with the Chief Executive Officers of the nationalised banks, this particular point was highlighted. At the same time, I would admit that the performance of the nationalised banks in this field are not up to our expectations. We are trying to see in what way we can improve the services, so far as the implementation of this programme is concerned. We have already taken it up not only with the Chief Executives of the nationalised banks but also with the Chief Ministers when there was a meeting of the Chief Ministers recently. Further, a committee has been appointed specially to look into the requirements of rural credit, and the Committee is going to submit its report shortly. After that, we will take up the other follow-up action.

**SHRI S. M. SIDDAYYA:** I find from the answer that there are two rates of interest charged—4 per cent and 10 to 12 per cent. Since the bonded labour come from the poorest of the poor class, may I know whether there is any proposal to give them loan free of interest?

**SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE:** There is one basic question here. Firstly, the assistance of the banks should be available for the rehabilitation of the persons concerned. Therefore, when a man is freed from serfdom, he has to be provided with certain facilities by which he can rehabilitate himself in the society. Four per cent interest rate is applicable to those districts where the differential rate of interest scheme is