

	<i>Pay Range</i>	<i>Rate of D.A. (P.M.)</i>
i)	Upto Rs. 3500/-	38% of pay.
ii)	Between Rs. 3501/- and Rs. 6000/-	28% of pay.
iii)	Above Rs. 6000/-	25% of pay.

(b) Yes, ϵ r.

(c) Does not arise.

Assistance given by Financial Institutions for Petro-Chemical Project

682. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether financial assistance was given by the principal financial institutions at concessional rate for a project in private sector to rebuild petro-chemical and fibre complex at Patalganga in Raigad, Maharashtra, damaged in the floods last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is the normal practice for the public sector financial institutions to render such assistance to the large industrial houses in such eventualities?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDEVATE): (a) to (c). Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) have reported that financial institutions have not so far sanctioned any financial assistance for restoring the plant of a particular unit, Reliance Industries Ltd., after flood damage at Patalganga. Such assistance is generally considered by the financial institutions on the merits of individual cases and justification for requirement of funds.

Revival of Sick Units

683. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government for amendments in the existing guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India to term-lending institutions for helping the sick but potentially viable units/companies to revive; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDEVATE): (a) and (b). RBI has reported that there is no proposal to amend the existing guidelines issued by them in the matter of revival of sick/weak units. However, the problems of sick units and measures for their rehabilitation are kept under review on an ongoing basis.

Review of Promotion Policies in Banks

684. SHRI HET RAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any instructions had been issued by Government in May, 1989, directing for review of every promotion policy which adversely affects the reservation already enjoyed by Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in any grade;

(b) whether the said directives have been followed by all nationalised banks;

(c) if not, whether any representations were received by Government in this regard and if so, the action taken to implement the directives;

(d) the particulars of banks/financial institutions which changed their promotion policy during 1988 and 1989 to the detriment of reservation enjoyed by Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe employees and details of resultant lapsing of reserved vacancies backlog and denial of applicable reservation to them, institution-wise and cadre-wise; and

(e) whether any action was taken by Government against the officials found responsible for ignoring Government directives?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). The instructions of the Department of Personnel and Training, Government of India of May, 1989 were conveyed to all public sector banks/financial institutions for information and necessary action. One of the suggestions related to restoration of a pre-existing advantage enjoyed by the SC/ST employees which might have been extinguished through amendment of rules. In so far as the public sector banks are concerned, no bank is reported to have carried out any amendment of its rules after the issue of the above instructions in 1989. As per the information so far available, atleast, one bank amended its promotion policy in the year 1988 to bring out the intention clearly as contained in the guidelines contained in regulations 17 of the Officers Service Regulations, 1979.

Insurance Scheme for Rural Worker

685. SHRI SUDAM DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) when Union Government's insur-

ance scheme for the rural workers (agricultural labours) for free Policy for an accidental death was made applicable in Maharashtra;

(b) whether the Scheme was extended in Maharashtra much later than other parts of the country, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of beneficiaries who have received such insurance payment in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra since its inception?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) The Union Government's Group Insurance Scheme for Landless Agricultural Labourers was implemented in the State of Maharashtra with effect from 1st April, 1989.

(b) Yes, Sir. The procedure for administration of the said Scheme involves identification of the eligible landless agricultural labourers who are heads of families aged between 18 to 60 years and who, as per the revenue records, do not own any agricultural land. The beneficiaries are also required to be issued identity cards containing basic particulars. The Government of Maharashtra considered this procedure as time consuming and expensive and, therefore, requested Central Government for simplification thereof. However, their request could not be acceded to, as the criterion for eligibility of members laid down in the said procedure was considered to be absolutely necessary for assessing the insurable population under the Scheme. As such, some delay occurred on the part of the Maharashtra State in adopting the said scheme.

(c) 251 families of landless labourers in Vidarbha region have been benefitted so far since the implementation of the Scheme in the State.