

HRA to Central Government Employees in Goa

1486. PROF. GOPALRAO MAYEKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government employees in Goa State are agitating for payment of House Rent Allowance as admissible in B-2 cities etc.;

(b) if so, the other demands of the Central Government employees in Goa; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to meet their demands?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The memorandum received in May 1990 from the Central Government Employees Coordination Committee, Goa State mainly deals with the grant of House Rent Allowance (HRA) at 'B-2' class city rates.

(c) As per the existing criterion, a population of over four lakhs in the Municipal area of a city is required for classification of a city as 'B-2' class city for purposes of grant of HRA at the rates applicable in 'B-2' class cities. Since this criterion is not fulfilled in any of the cities in Goa State, it has not been found possible to accept the demand.

Stay Orders by Courts In Recovery In Taxes

1487. SHRI HAMENDRA SINGH BANERA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in which stay orders have been granted by High Courts,

Supreme Court and various Tribunals restraining the Government from recovering duty tax arrears from assesses of Income-Tax/Central Excise/Customs and Central Sales Tax during the last two years;

(b) the period for which these stay orders have been force;

(c) the amount of interest lost by the Government as a result thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for the expeditious finalisation of such cases?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Loans Advanced for Self-Employment Ventures

1488. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details in regard to the scheme of advancing loans to individuals on priority basis on productive self-employment ventures; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to popularise the Scheme in remote areas of the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). The commercial banks provide loans to identified beneficiaries under various Self-employment schemes like the scheme for providing Self-Employment to the Educated Un-employed Youth (SEEUY),

Self-employment Programme for Urban Poor (SEPUP) and Scheme for Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME).

Under the SEEU, the loans to the extent of Rs. 35,000/- for industrial ventures, Rs. 25,000/- for service ventures and Rs. 15,000/0 for business ventures are provided to the the educated unemployed youth, who are matriculates and above and the age group of 18-35 years and whose family income does not exceed Rs. 10,000/- per annum. The Central Government provides subsidy at the rate of 25% of the project cost. The scheme extends to the whose of India excluding cities having population of more than 1 million as per 1981 census.

Under the SEPUP, the assistance not exceeding Rs. 5,000/- is provided to the beneficiaries whose family income does not exceed Rs. 7,200/- per annum. The subsidy at the rate of 25% of the loan amount is provided by the Central Government. The programme covers all metropolitan urban and semi-urban centres having a population of 10,000 and above as per 1981 census and the areas not covered by Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP).

Under SUME, assistance exceeding Rs. 15,000/- in respect of Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes/Women beneficiaries and Rs. 12,000/- in respect of other is provided with subsidy @ 25% of the project cost subject to the maximum subsidy of Rs. 5,000/

- to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes/ Women beneficiaries and Rs. 4,000/- to others. The unemployed urban poor whose family income does not exceed Rs. 7,200/- per annum residing in metropolitan area, cities and towns with a population of 10,000 and above as per 1981 census and areas where IRDP is not implemented are covered under the scheme.

The implementing agencies given due publicity for these schemes in the local news papers and other media in order to popularise them. The progress of various development schemes and the banks participation in them is also discussed and reviewed at various District Level Coordination Forums created for this purposes.

Export of Sugar to USA and EEC Countries

1489. DR. SHALENDRANATH SHRI-VASTAVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the quantity of sugar in tonnes exported to the European Economic Community countries and the United States of America during the years 1988-89 and 1989-90 and the target fixed for the year 1990-91?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): The figures of export of sugar during the years in question to EEC countries and the USA are as under:

Qty. in MTs.

<i>Year</i>	<i>EEC</i>	<i>USA</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1988-89	10,000	6,780