RAJYA SABHA

Tuesday, the 27th January, 1976/the 7th Magha, 1897 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. Chairman in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS
S. C./S.T. Persons as Directors of Nationalised Banks

*390. SHRI BHAIYA RAM MUNDA:† SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURA-GOHAIN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the question of appointing some persons from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as Directors in the Boards of Directors of all the nationalised banks, the State Bank of India and the Reserve Bank of India; and

(b) if so, what is the number of such Directors and when they will be appointed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) At present, there are nineteen persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as non-efficial Directers/Members on the Beards of Reserve Bank of India and of public sector banks.

SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI: Will the Minister give us the break-up of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

MR. CHAIRMAN: If he has got the information, he can give.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: In the case of the United Bank of India, both of them are Scheduled Tribes, the rest are Scheduled Castes.

श्री भय्याराम मुण्डा: शेड्युल्ड कास्ट ग्रीर शेड्युल्ड ट्राइब्स का रेश्यो ग्राज 15 परसेंट ग्रीर साढ़े सात परसेट का है, तो

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Bhaiya Ram Munda.

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इस हिसाब से इन बोर्डों में इन लोगों की नियुक्ति करने के प्रश्न पर सरकार विचार करेगी?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: The hon, Member is mistaken. We are talking of Directors and there is no such percentage regarding Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to be appointed on the Board of Directors.

श्रीं भय्याराम मुण्डा: शेड्युल्ड ट्राइब्स के लोग ज्यादातर जंगल ग्रीर पहाड़ों पर रहते हैं ग्रीर खेती करते हैं। उन को खेती के काम में तुंबे वगैरह बनाने में, पंपिंग सेट्स लगाने में ऋण की जरूरत होती है ग्रीर उसे हासिल करने में शेड्युल्ड ट्राइब्स के लोगों को बड़ी दिक्कत होती है। इस लिए ग्रगर वे लोग इन बीडों में ग्रिधिक से ग्रिधिक रहें तो वे ग्रपनी कठिनाइयों को बोर्ड के सामने रख सकते हैं। सरकार इन लोगों की दिक्कत को देखते हुए क्या ग्रिधिक से ग्रिधिक इस वर्ग के लोगों को वोर्डस में डाइरक्टर बनाने के प्रश्न पर विचार करेगी?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I do agree with the han. Member that make and more Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be involved in the management of banks so that their interests are looked after in a better way. I agree with the suggestion and it is our endeavour to see that more and more people are appointed.

SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURA-GOHAIN: The Scheduled Coste and Scheduled Tribe people are much werried by coming across the views expressed by some representative of the Government and also by courts that article 335 of the Constitution applies only to appointments to services and posts in connection with the affairs of the Union or of a State and to posts the payment for which is made from the Consolidated Fund of the State or of the Union and that posts in the public undertakings are excluded. So, may I ask the hon. Minister what policy is being adopted so far as the appointment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the nationalised banks is concerned?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: This question relates to the appointment of directors and not to the appointment of personnel or employees.

SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURA-GOHAIN: I want to know the policy of the Government.

SHR1 PRANAB MUKHERJEE: So far as the policy of the Government is concerned, we want to see that more and more Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people are employed in banks.

SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURA-GOHAIN: What is the actual policy? May I know whether the provisions of article 335 are applicable in the case of appointments in the nationalised banks?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has explained it. The Government will try to take them and more according to necessity.

SHRI N. H. KUMBHARE: The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, who constitute 21 per cent, represent the lewest strata of the society and in the context of the twenty-point economic programme more emphasis should be laid on helping the poorer sections.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This question pertains only to the boards of directors.

SHRI N. H. KUMBHARE: As a matter of fact there are certain schemes drawn up by the banks so as to make loans available on liberal terms. But the response from he poorer sections has been very poor. Therefore, I would like to know whether the Government has under contemplation any other scheme by which all the needy people will be advanced loans on liberal terms and I think it should be possible to do this without asking from them any guar nee.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This question does not arise.

SHRI N. H. KUMBHARE: Then I will ask another question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You should have done it before.

SHR1 N. H. KUMBHARE: We have been told by the Minister that some Directors have been appointed from among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I would like to know specifically whether Directors belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have been appointed on all the banks which have been nationalised. Is there any mechanism for ensuring that they are in all the banks?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I have already mentioned that Directors have not been appointed in all the banks. But we are trying to see that they are appointed in all nationalised banks and in the Central Board of the Reserve Bank and the State Bank of India in the head-quarters.

SHRI N. H. KUMBHARE: By what time?

श्री रोशन लाल: मैं वजीरे आला से यह दिरयापत करना चाहता हूं कि डाईरक्टर्स के अप्वाईमेन्ट के लिए कौन से जाब्ते और कायदे कानूनों की दरकार है जिनको पूरा करने के बाद शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स के लोग डाइरेक्टर्स बन सकते हैं?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I have already mentioned that there is no statutory provision for appointing Directors from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. But in order to see that their interests are also looked after, we have taken the administrative decision to accommodate more and more people belonging to these communities in the Boards of various nationalised banks.

SHRI ROSHAN LAL: What are the qualifications?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Experience in banks and financial management.

SHRI M. R. KRISHNA: The hon. Minister said that there are 14 Directors from these communities. I would like to know whether any directives or instructions have been given by the Finance Ministry to the Banks to take more and more people from these communities as Directors. These 14 Directors were taken by the banks because they wanted them considering their capacity. I want to know whether

any definite directives or instructions have been given by the Finance Ministry and if so to what extent the banks have complied with them ?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I have already replied that there is no statutory provision. But when we talk with the bank chairmen, we tell them to see that suitable persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are recruited and we. . .

SHRI M. R. KRISHNA: That was tried all along by the Government of India and . . .

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I have not finished the answer. The hon. Member was a Minister and he knows whether we have tried it or not. It in no use saying that we have tried it in the past. I can assure the hon. Member that we would like to see that within the shortest possible period each bank has one Director belonging to the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes. At the same time, It will take some time.

Construction of Hotels in the Public Sector

*391. SHRI MAHENDRA BAHADUR SINGH:

> SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA†: SHRIMATI LAKSHMI KUMARI CHUNDAWAT:

DR. V. B. SINGH:

SARDAR AMJAD ALI: SHRI Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of hotels likely to be constructed in the public sector during the current year:
 - (b) the location of each hotel;
- (c) the expenditure involved in each case;
- (d) the steps being taken to popularise the public sector hotels among tourists from various countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH): (a) and (c) During the current

financial year, 1975-76, the India Tourism Development Corporation, a public sector undertaking, has commissioned hotels at Calcutta and Kovalam. The estimated cost of these hotel projects is about Rs. 300 lakhs and Rs. 145 lakhs respectively.

to Questions

(d) The marketing of the public sector hotels abroad is done primarily through travel trade. Arrangements also exist for direct reservation of some ITDC hotels through Hotel Reservation Services like Steigenberger Reservation Service & Utell International. The India Tourism Development Corporation also advertises in foreign travel trade journals and other news media. Audio visual presentations on India Tourism Development Corporation services are made among foreign travel agents visiting India and also those located abroad in certain centres. The Government of India Tourist Offices abroad and Air India offices are regularly supplied with publicity material perteining to India Tourism Development Corporation's hetels for dissemination amongst potential travellers and travel agents.

श्री सवाई सिंह सिसोदिया: पर्यटक विभाग ग्रपने ग्राप मे एक महन उद्योग है। प्रकृति के वरदान से भारत में पर्यटकों के लिए विशेष मनोरंजन, रोमांचकारी श्रीर ग्राक्षक स्थल है । पर्यटक विभाग ने निस्सन्देह विदेशी पर्यटकों को भारत की ग्रोर ग्राकर्षित करने में प्रशंसनीय कार्य पिछले बर्षो में किया है। इस लिहाज से विदेशी पर्यटकों की संख्या में वृद्धि हो रही है। इन सारी परिस्थितियों को ध्यान में रखते हए वर्तमान पंचवर्षीय योजना में विदेशी पर्यटकों की संख्या का क्या अनुमान निर्धारित किया गया था ग्रौर भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम इस दौरान कितने होटल, लींज भ्रादि चला रहा है भ्रौर इनमें कितने यात्रियों के ठहरने का प्रबन्ध है पंचवर्षीय योजना की समाप्ति के बाद कितने यातियों के ठहरने की व्यवस्था हो सकेगी?

श्री स्रेन्द्र पाल सिंह : इन्होंने बडा लम्बा-चौड़ा प्रश्न कर दिया है। ग्रगर ग्राप

[†]T1: q13stion was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Sawai Singh Sisodia.