

(d) A Committee has been constituted to verify the encryption of token periodically. The concerned ASI staff has been directed to ensure the encryption of token on daily basis.

#### **Embezzlement of funds in ASI**

†947. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the employees of the branch which was given the responsibility of the cleanliness in Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has been embezzling the funds illegally for a long time;

(b) if so, the details of the facts highlighted in the investigation of this embezzlement and the amount withdrawn illegally so far; and

(c) the details of the actions taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) One incident of release drawl of excess funds amounting to approximately ₹7,83,65,737 has come to notice in one of the field offices of ASI.

(c) FIR has been lodged in the matter and the erring officials have been placed under suspension pending investigation/ enquiry.

#### **Revision of pension for retired bank employees**

948. DR. BANDA PRAKASH:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a long pending demand for revision of pension for retired bank employees;

(b) whether pension for retired bank employees has not been revised since 1986 as it has been the practice of periodical revision of pension along with the Pay Commission's review of pay scales being followed in case of Government employees;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether there has also been no increase in the quantum of pension payable to family members after the death of a serving or retired employee; and

(d) whether the Indian Banks Association has agreed to examine it positively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHIV PRATAP SHUKLA): (a) The retirees / retirees' associations of banks have raised the issue of revision of pension from time to time.

(b) and (c) Pension was introduced as a funded scheme in nationalised banks in place of the Contributory Provident Fund, on the basis of consensus arrived at between bank unions/associations and the Indian Banks' Association (IBA), which negotiated on behalf of participating banks. Accordingly, bank Boards framed Employees' Pension Regulations under the provisions of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Acts of 1970 and 1980. Pension in banks is thus payable as per the agreement arrived at between bank unions/associations and the banks and bank Boards have accordingly made regulations governing the same. These regulations do not have provision for revision of pension, including family pension.

(d) IBA has apprised that revision of pension for retirees and family pension for dependants of deceased employees are part of the Charter of Demands of Workmen Unions/Officers' Association submitted to it for ongoing wage revision negotiations.

#### **Performing of unwanted caesarean operations for profit**

949. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the WHO has warned India against the increasing trend of performing caesarean operations by doctors even without a medical need for life-saving for mother and baby;

(b) whether many private hospitals are indulging in caesarean section and not normal deliveries; and

(c) whether counsellors/doctors could be appointed outside of big hospitals to warn mothers-to-be against the unwanted caesarean operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) No.