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Title: Demand to open ATMs or one-man branches in the villages.

**DR. M.K. VISHNU PRASAD (ARANI):** Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Finance Minister that this nation is going towards zero balance accounts and online transactions. In fact, wages to women working in projects under MGNREGS are also being given to them through the banks in their accounts and not directly to them, in order to cut the middlemen.

When our country is going in this direction, I was surprised in the morning to hear an answer from the Finance Minister that according to the population and according to the business, the banks will start their branches. When the wages to women working in projects under MGNREGS are being given through bank in their accounts, how do you expect the women to go and withdraw the cash? They have to walk almost ten kilometres in my parliamentary constituency, Arani, itself. I come to this House from Arani parliamentary constituency in Tamil Nadu. At places like Mansurabad, Polur, *Melsevalambadi* and Perambalur, there is a need for branches of the banks as the women are suffering. I am not talking on behalf only of my constituency; I am talking on behalf of 35 crore women who are getting wages only through banks. So, the banks should not hesitate in opening their branches so that the people can withdraw the money. They can open at least the ATMs or one-man branches in the villages so that the people can withdraw money at any time they want to.

Thank you.

**माननीय अध्यक्ष :** श्री राजू बिष्ट जी – उपस्थित नहीं ।

श्री सी.पी. जोशी जी ।