

Tamang Tribe in Scheduled Tribe List

1616. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to refer to the answer given to the Unstarred Question No. 4178 dated 25.3.87 regarding Tamang Tribe in Scheduled Tribe list and state:

(a) whether Government have taken any final decision on the demand of the "Tamangs" of West Bengal, Sikkim and Assam for inclusion in the list of Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the exact decision in this regard and whether the comments from the concerned State Governments had also been received before the decision was taken; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay and exact recommendations/comments received from the State Governments in this regard as also the likely date by which the decision would be taken?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (c). No final decision regarding inclusion of Tamangs in the list of Scheduled Tribes in Sikkim, West Bengal and Assam has yet been taken as amendment in the existing list of Scheduled Tribes can be done only through an Act of Parliament in view of Article 342 (2) of the Constitution.

The comments received from the State Governments of Sikkim, West Bengal and Assam cannot be disclosed in the public interest. No time limit can be specified at this stage as the matter is linked up with the comprehensive revision of the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Committee to Review Working of Monetary System

1617. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) which of the recommendations of the Committee to review the working of the monetary system have since been implemented;

(b) the impact of the recommendations on the system; and

(c) the likely date by which the other major recommendations would also be implemented alongwith the nature and content of these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) to (c). The major recommendations of the Chakravarty Committee which have been implemented are given in the Statement below. It is not feasible to precisely segregate the impact of these measures on the economic system. Government keep in view the recommendations made by various committees from time to time while formulating policies, depending upon the emerging economic situation in the country.

STATEMENT

Some of the major recommendations of the Chakravarty Committee which have been implemented include the following:

(a) In pursuance of the recommendation in regard to the concept of budgetary deficit, this year's Central Government Budget has shown, as a memorandum item, the full extent of Government reliance on Reserve Bank Credit.

(b) The recommendation in respect of setting up of monetary targets has been accepted in principle, and an internal exercise on an experimental basis has been undertaken to determine its feasibility.

(c) Yield on long-term Government Securities have gradually been raised, and the maximum maturity period brought down to 15 years in the current year.

(d) With a view to enlarging the scope of the money market a number of steps have been

taken by the Reserve Bank of India. These include:

- (i) lowering of the bill discount rate,
- (ii) raising of the re-discount rate, and
- (iii) setting up of a Finance House.

(e) In order to develop a monetary instrument with flexible interest rates which would enable banks and other financial institutions to better manage their short-term liquidity, a new financial instrument, that is, 182-days Treasury Bills have been introduced from November 1986.

Cost of a Single Savings Bank Account Transaction

1618. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the average cost of a single Savings Bank Account transaction in the nationalised banks and how does it compare with the cost per transaction in the Savings Bank as operated by the Post Offices;

(b) the actual amount paid to the Postal Department per transaction for this purpose in the Savings Bank transaction; and

(c) the reasons for this difference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (c). Operation of Savings Bank Accounts by Post Offices is performed by the Department of Posts as an agency function and expenditure incurred in such transactions is reimbursed by the Government at the rates fixed by it. For the year 1985-86, the rate of reimbursement per Savings Bank transaction as reported by the Department of Post is Rs. 3.96.

Detailed data in respect of operations of various categories of deposit accounts in

nationalised banks is not available. It is, therefore, not possible to make any comparative assessment of the cost of transaction per Savings Bank Account in nationalised banks and Post Offices.

Inflation in Meerut and Bhopal

1619. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Meerut recorded highest rate of inflation of 13.4% and Bhopal the lowest 3% for the year ending April, 1987 as reported in Economic Times dated 19.6.87; and

(b) if so, the reasons for this difference and corrective measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The higher rate of inflation in Meerut compared to Bhopal as reflected by the CPI for Urban Non-Manual Employees (Base 1960=100) between April 1986 and April 1987 is due to the fact that whereas the indices for both the centres moved in harmony between April-November, 1986, there was divergent movement in the subsequent months upto April, 1987 - the index for Bhopal declined and that for Meerut went up. Such divergence in the movement of the indices of various centres during short periods is quite normal and is caused by local demand and supply factors. It is thus not an indicator of the overall costliness of the centre. In fact, the CPI for Meerut at 619 for April 1987 is lower than 647 for Bhopal.

The Government has taken a number of measures to keep the prices under check. These include strengthening of the public distribution system to ensure adequate supply of essential commodities and action against black-marketeers, hoarders, etc.