

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:872
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2000
APPOINTMENT ON COMPASSIONATE GROUND IN PNB
SUBODH ROY

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the rules for appointment on compassionate ground in Punjab National Bank, if the dependent of deceased is minor;
- (b) whether Government are aware that Punjab National Bank has rejected various applications for appointment on compassionate ground despite prior assurance by PNB for giving employment to the minor after attaining the age of eligibility;
- (c) if so, the details of disposal of such applications by PNB since 1993; and
- (d) the details of action taken/proposed to be taken by Government to ensure the appointment of applicants for their survival, particularly to those who are become orphan after the death of employees ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) :

(a), (b) and (d) According to Punjab National Bank the extant rules which are in force w.e.f 20.3.1997 for appointment of a minor on compassionate grounds in the bank are as under:

‘In case the dependent is a minor, his/her case can be considered at the discretion of the bank within four years of the death of the employee to enable him/her to qualify in terms of age, provided that the dependent has made a request to the bank within one year of the death of the employee’

Prior to 20.3.1997 the rules for appointment of a minor on compassionate grounds in the bank were as under :

‘In case the member of the family to be offered an appointment is a minor, the competent authority can keep the offer of appointment open till the minor attains the majority, if otherwise eligible, provided a request to that effect is made to the bank within one year from the date of death of the employee.’

Punjab National Bank have further reported that they have revised their rules in this regard w.e.f. 20.3.1997 keeping in view the Judgement of the Hon`ble Supreme Court on compassionate appointments in the case of Sri Umesh Kumar Nagpal Vs. State of Haryana and others (JT 1994 (3) SC 525). The relevant extracts from this judgement are as under :

‘The compassionate employment cannot be granted after a lapse of reasonable period which must be specified in the rules. The consideration of such employment is not a vested right which can be exercised at any time in future. The object being to enable the family to get over the financial crisis which it faces at the time of the death of the sole bread winner, the compassionate employment cannot be claimed and offered whatever the lapse of time and after the crisis is over.’

Punjab National Bank have, thus, processed pending applications for such appointments under their revised rules.

(c) The cases in which the applicants were minor at the time of death of the employee and whose cases have been declined by the bank after they attained majority, are given in the enclosed Statement along with the reasons for rejection.