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Title: Regarding the Bank Charges on customers.

DR. A. SAMPATH (ATTINGAL): Thank you, Madam. This subject is relating to the customers of our public sector banks. I had given a notice of submission also; unfortunately that was not taken up. So, kindly allow me.

HON. SPEAKER: Okay.

DR. A. SAMPATH : Madam, I am very much grateful to you for allowing me to speak on this matter. The State Bank of Travancore was our bank, our Kerala bank. That was also merged with the State Bank of India. From April 1 onwards, the five associate banks have become a part and parcel of the State Bank of India. It is good that a big bank is emerging.

When people are discussing about economies of the large scale, actually the service charges should be reduced. But what happens is this. People are supposed to deposit their money in the banks. After the third deposit, for each and every deposit, Rs. 50 is being charged from the customer. There should be a minimum balance of Rs. 5000 in the account in the metro cities like Delhi and there should be at least Rs. 3000 in the account if it is a town branch account. There should be a minimum balance of Rs. 2000 in the account in semi-urban areas. If it is in a village, a gram panchayat, in the village branch, there should be a minimum balance of Rs. 1000 in the branch.

Not only that, you see, Madam, after the fifth ATM transaction in the SBI, for every transaction Rs. 10 is being charged. If it is for other banks, after the third transaction, again it is being charged. And Rs. 15 is charged for SMS messages also....(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel and Shri Sankar Prasad Datta are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Dr. A. Sampath.