

**Debt relief to Farmers, Artisans, etc.**

\*74. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH:  
SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have evolved modalities for debt relief upto Rs. 10,000 to small, marginal and landless cultivators, artisans and also to persons living below the poverty line in slums of urban areas; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether there has also been a proposal to evolve a scheme for providing working capital and other credit facilities to small, domestic and rural industrial units, if so, the outline of the proposal; and

(c) the estimated amounts involved in proposals mentioned in parts (a) and (b) above, separately?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANAVATE): (a) to (c). The Government is considering a scheme for debt relief upto Rs. 10,000 to certain categories of borrowers in the rural areas only. The modalities for implementing the scheme are being worked out.

The Banks provide credit on liberal terms to Priority Sector of which small scale industries form a part and includes domestic and rural industrial units. Bank loans upto Rs. 25,000 are available to artisans, village and cottage industries under the composite loan scheme at the concessional rate of interest of 10% per annum in backward areas and 12% per annum in other areas. No collateral security/third party guarantee and margin are required on such loans upto Rs. 25,000/-

The precise figures on account of debt reliefs, referred to above, are being worked out. The total amount of outstanding advances to small scale industries including domestic and rural industries by 28 public sector banks as at the end of September, 1989 (latest available) was Rs. 13,781 crores.

**Computerisation of Banks**

\*76. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:  
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee constituted by the Reserve Bank of India on computerisation in banks in September, 1988 has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details of the computerisation programme proposed by the Committee for computerisation in the banking system in the country; and

(c) the decision taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANAVATE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The perspective plan of computerisation in banking industry as drawn up by the Rangarajan Committee for the period 1990-94 incorporates, inter-alia, computerisation of about 500 large branches located at 30 metropolitan/urban centres during the next 2-3 years. The computerisation is to be extended to cover some additional relatively large branches resulting in computerisation of about 6-7 percent of branches of public sector banks during 1990-94. Total number of public sector banks branches are 39,000 (approximately). The plan also envisages some computerisation of Regional/Zonal Offices for better house-keeping and decision making.