

play in the District Committees of DRDA financing scheme. But now under what circumstances in the Department of Banking that role has been withdrawn?

Hon. Members are now aggrieved. They are feeling aguish and sorrow that a Member of Parliament is a nobody in the decision making process in the District level Committees to award loans to the genuine people. Because Members of Parliament cannot do even this much favour to a person. He will be tortured later on.

For that reason the Hon. Minister while replying to the Budget discussion said that now a Member of Parliament will take an active role in all decision making processes particularly in the banking sector. While it was possible three years back, why now and who has withdrawn this?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: There was no such scheme at any point of time that Members of Parliament will decide on who should get the loans and who should not get them...*(Interruptions)*.. There was no such Committee. The Government has never formed such Committee and the Government does not intend to form Committees wherein the Members of Parliament will decide for whom the loans should be given. This is the work of the Banks and they will do it. But the advice of Members of Parliament and their supervision will be welcomed and therefore we are forming these Committees now. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Not allowed. Sit down. You cannot speak without my permission.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: We want a half-an-hour's discussion on this subject Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: You have discussed it so many times. Next question. Shri V. Sobhanadreeswara Rao.

Settlement of Claims of Commercial Establishments Damaged During Riots in Andhra Pradesh

*695. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of insured commercial establishments damaged in riots/disturbances in some parts of Andhra Pradesh in the last week of December, 1988;

(b) the details of total damages assessed;

(c) the number of cases in which the claims have been settled;

(d) whether Government have issued instructions to the insurance companies to settle the claims without delay; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (e). A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a) to (c). The total number of riot claims reported to the four subsidiaries of General Insurance Corporation of India in Andhra Pradesh so far is 1382. These claims include

claims from Commercial establishments as well as from individuals including those in respect of shops and damaged vehicles. As per latest report received from GIC, 1137 claims involving an amount of Rs. 9.96 Crores have since been disposed of, by the four subsidiaries of GIC.

(d) and (e). Following instructions from the Government for quick settlement of the claims arising out of riots in Andhra Pradesh, the general insurance industry has given various realizations for handling these claims, such as acceptance of the certificate from the district officials in lieu of regular F.I.R./Police Report/Fire Brigade Report, acceptance of the extracts from the records of Regional Transport Authorities in case of loss of R.C. Book and resultant delay in obtaining duplicate R.C. Book, acceptance of evidence from sources like Commercial Tax Returns/Damage Certificate by district authorities in cases where accounts books are not available, enhancement of the financial authority of the Regional Managers by one step higher to expedite disposal of claims at that level etc. In addition to the above relaxations, the surveyors have been instructed to submit survey reports on claims within a definite time frame so as to facilitate quick processing of the claims.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Sir, through you I would like to know from the Hon. Minister regarding the settlement of the claims of the riot victims who have lost their properties during the disturbances that happened during the last week of December 1988. The damage was unprecedented. It far exceeded the total damages that have taken place during the Delhi riots. The total number of claims were 1382 and till now only 1137 claims are settled. Still more than 250 claims are to be settled and it is more than 3/1/2 or nearly 4 months.

I would like to know from the Hon. Min-

ister, through you, Sir, as to what specific instructions have been given to settle these claims without any further loss of time because unless the claims without any further loss of time because unless the claim is settled, one cannot restart one's economic activity. It has come to our notice that it so happened in respect of some commercial establishments that though the limit was Rs. 5 lakhs, their Field Officers insured for more amount and because of that and some technical snag they are taking a very long time. It is not the fault of the party; it is the fault of the Field Officers.

I would like to know from our Hon. Minister whether the Government will issue immediate instructions to settle all these claims without any further loss of time.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: We have already issued instructions to settle these claims very fast and for this purpose several exemptions and various relaxations have been made for handling all these claims such as acceptance of the certificate from the district officials in lieu of regular FIR/Police Report/Fire Brigade Report, acceptance of the extracts from the records of Regional Transport Authorities in case of loss of RC Books and resultant delay in obtaining duplicate RC books and so on and so on and so forth. So several relaxations have been made for big settlements. Our intention is to settle them quickly.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: He has not answered the other thing about settlement under insurance scheme.

MR. SPEAKER: The Question Hour is over.