

Deputy Secretary and above and to the 25% of Class I officers below the rank of Deputy Secretary.

Problems of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Employees In Banking Industry

802. SHRI HET RAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any joint meeting was conducted on 2 September, 1989 by the then Minister of Finance (Banking) with All India Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Bank Employees Confederation to solve the problems of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in services in banking industry;

(b) if so, the details of other participants in the meeting;

(c) the important issues discussed in the meeting and decisions taken thereon; and

(d) the likely date of next joint meeting to take final decision on the matters raised?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (d). A meeting was taken by the then Minister of State for Finance with some Members of Parliament and the representatives of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes Employees Welfare Associations in the Banks, on 2nd September 1989, which was, inter alia, attended by the Chairman, Indian Banks' Association, representatives of the Reserve Bank of India, State Bank of India, Ministry of Law, Department of Personnel and Training and the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes. In the meeting some of the important decisions taken were as under:—

(i) The banks would treat the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes

employees invited to meet the Liaison Officer/chief executives of the banks or the Parliamentary Committees etc. as on duty and to pay them Travelling Allowance/ Dearness Allowance at admissible rates;

(ii) The chief executives of the banks will hold quarterly meetings with the representatives of the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes;

(iii) The banks would examine the question of absorption of temporary staff on regular basis.

No further meeting has been held.

[*Translation*]

Rationing of Iron and Steel In Rural Areas

803. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to control the prices of steel and iron;

(b) if so, by what time; and

(c) whether there is any scheme to provide steel and iron to people at cheaper rates by opening Government controlled shops of iron and steel in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

Facilities for Tourists at Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh

804. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state: