

SHRI H M PATEL The hon Member has put a question the significance of which apparently is not fully realised. His question related to generation of counterpart rupee funds out of foreign exchange assistance. This is an important point. I have pointed out that only one agreement for counterpart rupee funds was entered into during this period. That kind of arrangement only existed in regard to one project. And we have indicated to the hon Member that the rupees thus generated would be utilised for Singrauli Super Thermal Power Station. I do not understand what other information the hon Member desires to have.

SHRI K LAKKAPPA What is the stipulated time incorporated in the agreement for utilization of such fund for this project?

SHRI H M PATEL There is no stipulation of any time. It was mentioned that the monies generated would be utilised as rupees for a particular project and the same has been utilised.

DR SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY It appears from the Minister's reply that the counterpart rupee funds or whatever it is generated out of the foreign exchange assistance would lead the country further to India's dependence on foreign countries. Has the Minister in view any target for attaining self reliance?

MR SPEAKER It does not arise out of this question.

Bank Loans to Antyodaya Families

*340 **SHRI YUVRAJ** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state whether there is a provision for advancing loans to Antyodaya families from nationalised banks and the number of Antyodaya families given such loans and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H M PATEL) Public sector banks are making advances under the Antyodaya Scheme recently formulated by the State Government of Rajasthan. So far, they have sanctioned Rs 75.04 lakhs to 5778 families.

श्री युवराज : ग्रह्यस्य महोदय, अन्त्योदय योजना के अन्तर्गत ऐसे ही लोग आते हैं जो साधनहीन होने हैं, जिन के पास कोई अपनी सम्पत्ति नहीं होती है। इस तरह की आबादी इस देश में 30-35 करोड़ लोगों की है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ माननीय वित्त मंत्री से कि जो यह 35 करोड़ की आबादी अन्त्योदय व्यक्तियों की है उन के लिए केवल राजस्थान में ही ऐसी योजना लागू की गई या केन्द्रीय सरकार की कोई ऐसी राष्ट्रीय नीति है? ऐसे साधनहीन व्यक्ति जिन के पास कोई साधन अपनी जीविका के लिए नहीं है, उन के लिए क्या राष्ट्रीय आघार पर कोई ऐसी योजना लागू करने के लिए आपने कोई नीति निर्धारित की है तथा राजस्थान के अलावा अन्य प्रदेश सरकारों को आपने इस तरह के कोई निर्देश दिए हैं कि ऐसे साधनहीन व्यक्तियों को राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों से ऋण दिया जाये जिससे कि वे अपनी जीविका का प्रबन्ध कर सकें?

SHRI H M PATEL This is a scheme which has been formulated by the State of Rajasthan. The question related to that I have given this information.

His further point was whether this is now being copied by other States. Certainly other States have been kept informed by the State of Rajasthan and it is for those State Governments to consider whether they should adopt that scheme or some other scheme. Actually every State is considering how best to give assistance to the people in this strata of society.

MR. SPEAKER: He has asked whether there is a national scheme for that.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: That I have said already. There is no national scheme.

श्री सुबराज : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह जानकर बड़ी निराशा होती है कि केवल राजस्थान सरकार ने ही एक ऐसी नीति बनाई और 5778 व्यक्तियों को 75 लाख रुपए ऋण देने की स्वीकृति प्रदान की। क्या ऐसे साधनहीन व्यक्तियों को ऋण देने की दिशा में जो कुछ कार्यवाही हुई है उसमें गति लाने के लिए राष्ट्रीय आधार पर साधनहीन व्यक्तियों को राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंको से ऋण दिलाया जाय और इस दिशा में कारगर कदम उठाये जायें—इस प्रकार की बात क्या आप सोचते हैं ?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: The hon Member should know that the Antyodaya scheme of the Rajasthan Government itself is on an experimental basis. It says that in the first year they will endeavour to bring under the scheme 1.6 lakhs people and based on that experience of the first year, they will consider taking over another 1.6 lakhs. So, until we see how exactly the scheme works out talking in terms of expanding it all over the country will be somewhat premature.

SHRI HITENDRA DESAI: What are the essential features of this scheme?

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO: He does not know.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: The Antyodaya scheme was formulated by the State Government of Rajasthan with a view to raise the living standards of the five poorest families in every village of Rajasthan. We find that the total number of families to be covered under the programme during the current year is 1.6 lakhs.

SHRI HITENDRA DESAI: What is the rate of interest?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: This will be under the DRI scheme, i.e. 4 per cent.

श्री रामजी लाल दाबब : अध्यक्ष महोदय, लोगों ने अपने अपने क्षेत्रों के गांव एडाप्ट करवा लिए हैं जिनका नतीजा यह है कि कुछ गांव एडाप्ट होने में रह गए हैं। इस कारण जो गांव एडाप्ट नहीं हो पाये हैं वहां अंत्योदय योजना के अन्तर्गत फेमिलीज को राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक कोई लोन नहीं दे रहे हैं अतः क्या सरकार इन गांव को एडाप्ट करवाने की व्यवस्था करेगी ?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: No, Sir. It is a scheme which has to be administered by the State of Rajasthan.

श्री चतुर्भुज : क्या वित्त मंत्री बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि राजस्थान के अन्दर अंत्योदय योजना में कितने व्यक्ति लिए गए हैं और कितना लोन दिया गया है और राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक पाच किलोमीटर की दूरी तक लोन दे इस सम्बन्ध में आप क्या प्रबंध कर रहे हैं ?

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO: He has said it—Rs. 75 lakhs.

SHRI YADVENDRA DUTT: Yes, he has already answered.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I have already said that so far 5778 families have been given Rs. 75.04 lakhs.

श्री सुरेन्द्र झा सुमन : मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि राजस्थान का उल्लेख करने हुए आपने बिहार सरकार को सूचना भेजी है या नहीं ? यदि भेजी है तो उस पर बिहार सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया हुई है ?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I have no information regarding Bihar.

SHRI NANASAHIM BONDE: This scheme has been adopted by Rajasthan. Would you find it desirable to apply it to the whole nation?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: As I said before this is an experiment. It has not yet finished one year. We have to see how it has worked. Has it in fact worked as framers of the scheme expected? If so, then we will consider whether we should recommend to the other States to adopt it.

श्री एस० एस० सोमानी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, राजस्थान सरकार ने जिन लोगों का प्रन्त हो चुका है, उन के उदय के लिये यह योजना चलाई है । लेकिन हम में बैंकों के सामने कुछ प्रेक्टिकल डिफिकल्टी है, उन का कहना है कि रकम की वसूली का कोई माधन नहीं है । जब तक सरकार रकम की वसूली की गारन्टी नहीं देती है, तब तक इन्वेस्टिगबली सब को लोन नहीं दिया जा सकता है । इसी लिये 1 लाख 6 हजार परिवारों की लिस्ट बनी थी, लेकिन पाच हजार परिवारों को लोन दिया गया है । क्या आप बैंकों को इस प्रकार का टायरंक्शन देंगे कि इन की रिक्वरी

Mr SPEAKER. They have no right to give direction.

श्री एस० एस० सोमानी : तब तो फिर बैंकों से लोन दिलाने की जो बात है, वह नहीं हो पायेगी । क्या सरकार कोई ऐसा बाया-मीडिया निकालेगी कि यह रकम पटवारी की मार्फत बैंकों को वापस मिल सके ?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Under the scheme the bank gives assistance for certain purposes—for instance for the allotment of land, cattle loan-sheep and goat units, poultry, piggery, small scale and cottage industries. These loans are given with the fullest sympathy for the people. There is no question of security being required at all. It is given realising that they

will earn some money from these things and will be able to discharge their obligations.

SHRI TULSIDAS DASAPPA: Only after the success of this scheme, there will be possible proposal to have it extended to the whole country. May I know from the Minister whether there has been an interim survey of these families as to how far they have been able to benefit from the scheme during the course of this year?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: The scheme has not yet completed one year.

श्री मोटालाल पटेल : अध्यक्ष महोदय, राजस्थान सरकार के मामले इस समय दो समस्याये प्रमुख है । एक तो जैसा सोमानी जी ने कहा कि बैंक्स उस सब से गरीब व्यक्ति से गारन्टी चाहते हैं । अगर बैंकों को गारन्टी दे दी जाए, तब तो लोन में कोई दिक्कत नहीं है, लेकिन वह गरीब गारन्टी कहां से लायें । इस लिये मेरा कहना है कि गारन्टी की जरूरत उन के साथ नहीं रखनी चाहिये ।

दूसरी बात—अभी तक रिजर्व बैंक के द्वारा उन बैंकों को ऐसी कोई हिदायत नहीं दी गई है कि वे ग्रन्थोदय योजना के साथ सहयोग करें । इस लिये माननीय मंत्री जी उन बैंकों को इस तरह की हिदायत दे कि वे ग्रन्थोदय योजना का ज्यादा से ज्यादा सहयोग दे कर उनको कार्यान्वित करें ।

SHRI H. M. PATEL. The scheme, as I said, has not yet completed one year. The other process can begin after that.

The hon. Member is perhaps not aware that the Reserved Bank actually sent a team of people and they have studied the matter. And, whatever reasonable maximum possible assistance could be provided, would be provided.

All these assistance are provided for under the DRI—that is, Differential Rate of Interest. They charge only four per cent rate of interest. The amount is half a per cent of the total deposits of banks and that amount may be Rs. 50 or Rs. 60 crores. There has to be a limit. The Rajasthan Government asked for Rs. 28 crores during the current year. We have said that that is too much, and they cannot have this. That was an exaggerated figure; it is unlikely that that much amount will be needed also. As I said, we try to meet their requirements to the maximum extent possible.

श्री नाथू सिंह : आप मुझे एक मिनट का समय दीजिए । यह बहुत इम्पोर्टेंट सवाल है और राजस्थान के विकास का सवाल है ।

MR. SPEAKER: Every day you won't get chance to put questions please.

श्री नाथू सिंह : आप क्यों नहीं इजाजत दे रहे हैं ?

MR. SPEAKER: Next question.

Protectionist measures by Developed Countries

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*347. SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA:

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) is it a fact that protectionist measures have been adopted by the developed countries against the developing countries; and

(b) what harm has this measure done to our country and what steps Government have taken or propose to take against this measure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

It is a fact that since the beginning of 1977 protectionist trends have become apparent in the major developed countries like United States of America, Australia, Canada and the member-States of the European Economic Community. These trends have manifested themselves in various measures taken by the developed countries intended to protect their domestic industries from competing imported products. The adverse impact of these measures has been far greater on the developing countries including India.

The major items covered by such protectionist measures which are of interest to India include textiles, certain steel and engineering products and footwear. Textiles has been the most important sector where developed countries have taken steps to restrict imports.

Government of India is fully alive to the problem. The Multi-Fibre Arrangement regulating the international trade in textiles was renewed in the background of these protectionist attitudes adopted by most of the importing developed countries. The Arrangement has been renewed for a period of four years from 1-1-1978 and is expected to bring about some degree of stability in the international trade in textiles. Within the framework of MFA we have also concluded satisfactory bilateral textile agreements with our principal consumer countries.

We have been expressing our concern in various international forums like UNCTAD, GATT and ESCAP. Our concern about specific measures introduced by the developed countries have been discussed at the