

[21 December, 1999]

RAJYA SABHA

the branches in Vikaspuri and Chandni Chowk as per the licenses, bank-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Under the Extant Branch Licensing Policy, the decision for opening a bank branch at a particular centre has been left to the discretion of the banks themselves subject to obtaining prior licence from Reserve Bank of India. The banks take action in the matter after assessing the established need for banking vis-a-vis the financial viability of the proposed branch.

(b) and (c) As per the information available with Reserve Bank of India (RBI), one nationalised bank has been issued authorization for opening of a branch at Vikaspuri, while a private sector bank has been issued authorization for Chandni Chowk and Vikaspuri. The banks are likely to open their branches on completion of infrastructural arrangements etc.

Diversion of funds reserved for development of backward classes

2078. SHRI SATISHCHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have diverted some reserve funds, (reserve for the development of backward classes) to elsewhere; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) There is no reserve fund for development of backward classes. Hence, the question of diversion does not arise.

Import of outdated second-hand Machinery

2079. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a lot of outdated secondhand machinery has been imported in the country, particularly printing technology, textiles, steel and the like;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is a lot of over-invoicing done when these machineries are imported;

(c) whether Government have ever nabbed the culprits;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what is the punishment meted out to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Filling up of posts of CMD in Banks

2080. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Indian Express dated 1st December, 1999, under the heading "Ministry sitting tight on bank CEO appointments";

(b) if so, what are the names of public sectors banks where the post of C.M.D. are laying vacant and since when; and

(c) what are the reasons for not filling up the posts of C.M.D. in those banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present the post of Chairman and Managing Director are vacant in Canara Bank and Bank of Baroda with effect from 1st June, 1999 and 1st December, 1999 respectively.

(c) Action has been initiated to fill up these vacancies.

PNB Officers involved in CBI case

2081. DR. MAHESH CHANDRA SHARMA:

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 709 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 7th