

most cases, will apply to new commitments of officials assistance, and there would be only a small effect on the projects in the current year.

(c) In conformity with the existing policies, Government of India have taken measures to encourage other private capital flows including foreign direct investment and investment by the NRIs/OCBs. The Union Budget of 1998-99, has also proposed measures to strengthen the foundations of the Indian economy to deal effectively with an inherently uncertain external environment.

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक में लेखा परीक्षण व्यवस्था

1452. श्री रामगोपाल यादव : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक में लेखा परीक्षण व्यवस्था लागू करने पर विचार कर रही हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में कार्यक्रम क्या हैं और यदि नहीं, तो इसके कारण क्या हैं?

कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत और पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आर० जनार्दनम) : (क) भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक अधिनियम, 1934 के प्रावधानों के अनुसार, भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक के लेखों की वार्षिक बाह्य लेखा परीक्षा की प्रणाली पहले ही विद्यमान है।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

Performance of Foreign Banks in the Country

1453. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:
PROF. RAM KAPSE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the foreign banks in India have outdone Indian Banks in profitability, productivity and financial management;

(b) if so, bank-wise details in respect of top ten Indian banks and foreign banks operating in India during the last two years ending with 31st March, 1998; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the performance of Indian banks, with particular reference to the nationalised banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI R. JANARTHANAM):

(a) Keeping in view the geographical spread of the branches of public sector banks in the length and breadth of the country, class of customers served, social obligation to lend to the rural population as well as the extent of modernisation achieved by the public sector banks, the profitability, productivity and financial management of public sector banks cannot be compared with that of foreign banks.

(b) Bank-wise details of top 10 (Indian banks and foreign banks) operating in the country during the year 1995-96 and 1996-97 are given in the Statement. (See below) The position as on 31.3.1998 is not available as banks are yet to finalise their accounts.

(c) RBI/Government have taken following specific measures to ensure that the performance of nationalised banks improves and they do not incur losses;

(i) RBI holds annual discussion with the Chief executives of nationalised banks to review their performance against various parameters and vis-a-vis the commitments for performances made earlier. The banks also commit to attain higher levels of business and performance to improve profitability, reduce cost of deposits, recovery of NPAs, tone up house-keeping and staff productivity.

(ii) Increase modernisation and mechanisation to improve productivity, opening of specialised branches to give focused attention etc.

(iii) Government of India have granted greater autonomy to certain eligible nationalised banks in various functional areas to improve their efficiency.