

mereial organisations; cannot be expected to provide subsidised services.

(c) There is no proposal to waive service charges on outstation cheques upto the amount of Rs. 2500/-.

Amendments to the existing statutes to bring transparency in banking activities

491. DR. ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amendments to the existing statutes are under consideration to ensure greater transparency of banking activities in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that public disclosures of the names of major defaulters of bank loans is one of the measures being considered for incorporation in the proposed amendments; and

(c) whether the relevant measures adopted in a neighbouring country are being examined in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED):

(a) Government of India had issued a Notification on 19th December, 1991 amending the formats of the Balance Sheet and the Profit & Loss Account as contained in the Third schedule to the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

(b) There are no proposals at present for public disclosures of the names of major defaulters of bank loans.

(c) Does not rise in view of reply to (b) above.

492. [Transferred to 15th December, 1993].

Attachment of shares of M/s. Saw Pipe Limited

493. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Income-tax authorities have attached over two lakh shares of M/s. Saw Pipes Limited alleged to be held by benami companies as reported in the Indian Express of 8th October, 1993;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) what are the names of the companies, the number and the amount of shares involved in each case;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Income-tax authorities have also asked M/s. Saw Pipes Limited not to entertain any request for the transfer of ownership of the tainted shares; and

(e) if so, what are the details of the instructions issued in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (e) The Assessing Officer had provisionally attached 1,80,900 shares of Saw Pipes Ltd., under section 281-A of the Income-tax Act, 1961 on 21.9.1993. This provisional attachment is valid initially for a period of six months from the date of the order.