

earning or he attains the age of 25 years whichever is earlier.

(6) In the case of an unmarried daughter, the Ex-gratia payment will be payable till she starts earning or she attains the age of 25 years or she gets married whenever is earliest.

(7) If the son or daughter of the ex-employee is suffering from any disorder or disability of mind or physically crippled or disabled, so as to render him or her unable to earn living, the Ex-gratia payment shall be payable to such son or daughter for life in accordance with the instructions issued in similar cases for family pension under Reserve Bank of India Pension Regulations, 1990.

(8) where the Ex-gratia payment is granted to a minor, the same shall be payable to the guardian on behalf of the minor.

(9) The life-time arrears of Ex-gratia payment will be payable in respect of the eligible members of the family of the deceased employee of the Bank who were alive on 1.1.1986 and died subsequently from the 1st January, 1986 upto the date of death.

(10) Other provisions of eligibility prescribed for family pension under the Reserve Bank of India Pension Regulations, 1990 shall apply for the purpose of regulating grant of Ex-gratia payment.

Distribution of Reserve Bank of India's security holdings

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

(a) the details of the distribution of the Reserve Bank of India's current security holdings by their maturity pattern-wise;

(b) the rate of interest attached to each such group of holdings; and

(c) the Reserve Bank of India's gross interest earnings from such

holdings in 1992-93 and the earnings expected in 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Collection of service charges by commercial Banks

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

(a) what are the principles and criteria on the basis of which service charges are collected by the commercial banks from their customers;

(b) whether Government consider it good business practice for the banks to raise service charges such as commission for clearance of outstation cheques so as to partly compensate for losses from lending operations; and

(c) whether Government propose to waive service charges on outstation cheques upto the amount of Rs. 2,500/-?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) Based on the recommendations of the Committee of Public Sector Banks on Service Charges, all public sector banks have adopted a common schedule of service charges which lays down the minimum that can be charged. It has been left to the discretion of individual banks to selectively levy higher charges, if special circumstances so warrant.

(b) While losses from lending operations are not a basis for structuring the service charges, banks, being com-

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.