

New Stock Exchanges in Maharashtra and Punjab

956. SHRI MOHTNDER SINGH KALYAN :

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether progress has so far been made in the setting up of new Stock Exchanges in Maharashtra and Punjab;

(b) what are the proposals under Government's consideration in this regard; and

(c) by when the new stock exchanges are likely to become functional ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) A Committee appointed by the Government in 1991 for establishment of new Stock Exchanges had, inter alia suggested establishment of Stock Exchanges at Nagpur, New Bombay and Chandigarh. The Government have recently granted recognition to National Stock Exchange at Bombay, which would serve the entire country through its fully automatic, electronic net work. The SEBI have been asked to suggest a viable group of promoters in the case of proposed Stock Exchanges at Nagpur and Chandigarh.

(c) No time frame has been chalked out for establishing new Stock Exchanges at Nagpur and Chandigarh as the promoters to be recommended by SEBI have to take necessary steps in this regard.

Redaction in the Merest by RBI

957. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India will be launching another round of interest cut, if so what are the details thereof;

(b) whether Government are considering the realignment of the entire interest regime, if so by when and what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are consider-in? the invitation of the phased reduction of the statutory liquidity ratio (SLR) and the cash reserve ratio (CRR); and

(d) if so, by when and what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) The structure of lending rates determined by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) taking into account a number of factors like the growth rate of the economy, the rate of inflation, the pace of monetary expansion, the cost of raising resources by banks, the profitability of banks etc. Keeping in view the above factors, RBI reviews the lending rate structure from time to time. RBI feels that the current lending rate structure for banks, is appropriate. However, the banks are under instructions from RBI that while they are free to determine the actual lending rates on higher category of loans, it is necessary for them to adopt an objective and rational criteria for deciding the range of rate between the minimum lending rates as fixed by the RBI and the actual rates charged to different borrowers.

(c) and (d) The Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) for Scheduled Commercial Banks (excluding Regional Rural Banks) up-to the level of outstanding net demand and time liabilities (excluding Regional Rural Banks) upto the level of cut-standing net demand and time liabilities (excluding non-resident liabilities) as on

April 3, 1992 would be reduced from 37.75 per cent to 36.75 per cent in four phases of 0.25 per centage points each effective from the fortnight beginning from August 21, September 18, October 6, 1993 and November 13, 1993 respectively.

Cash Reserve Ratio to be maintained by scheduled commercial banks (excluding Regional Rural Banks) would be reduced from 15.0 per cent to 14.0 per cent in two phases of 0.5 percentage point each effective from April 17 and May 15, 1993 respectively.

Violation of Laws by M/s. Essar Group

958. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have received; any complaints regarding FERA violation and violations of RBI, SEBI and Company Law etc. in regard to the recent rights issue of the Essar Group' including the Essar Gajarat Limited and Essar Shipping Limited of the Ruia Group ; and

(b) what were the details thereof and the Finding of the investigations, if any conducted into the allegations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE; MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY; OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) The Government have received a complaint alleging irregularities in the closing of a recent rights issue of Essar Gujarat Ltd. It has been forwarded to SEBI for comments The information when received will be laid on the Table of the House.

Despatch of Certificates by UTI

959. SHRI PASUMPON THAKIRUT-TTNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the communications addressed to the DTI for the non-receipt of various types of 1096 RSSI94—15

certificates by the investors are not responded to for months together;

(b) whether it is a fact that various kinds of unit certificates which are required to be sent to the investors under re-gistered post are being sent by ordinary post resulting in their loss in transit and harassment to the investors;

(c) whether there are any guidelines as to which documents are to be sent by registered post and which by ordinary post; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) whether these guidelines are being followed; if not, what are the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) Yes, Sir. The delays in responding to the communications received from investors by the Unit Trust of India (UTI) are mainly in respect of the scheme of Mastergain-1992. The time required for processing over 62 lakhs applications received under the scheme was the main reason for such delays.

(b) to (d) As per the post office guide, Unit certificates are not required to be sent by registered post. However, under the guidelines followed by the Unit Trust of India, all unit certificates which are registered and transferable on the Stock Exchanges are sent by registered post. In addition, all certificates for amounts exceeding face value of Rs. 2000 and which are transferable are also sent by registered post.

960. [Transferred to 13th May, 1993].

Circle Security Department of State Bank of India

961. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether circle security department of State Bank of India has failed in achiev-