

in other companies shall not exceed 20 per cent of the bank's own paid-up capital and reserves.

(m) In regard to branch opening, it shall be governed by the existing policy that banks are free to open branches at various centres including urban/metropolitan centres without the prior approval of the RBI once they satisfy the capital adequacy and prudential accounting norms. However to avoid over-concentration of their branches in metropolitan areas and cities, a new bank will be required to open rural and semi-urban branches also, as may be laid down by RBI.

(n) Such a bank shall have to lay down its loan policy within the overall policy guidelines of RBI. While doing so, it shall specifically provide prudential norms covering related party transactions.

(o) Such a bank shall make full use of modern infrastructural facilities in office equipments, computer, telecommunications etc. in order to provide good customer service. The bank should have a high powered customer grievances cell to handle customer complaints.

(p) Such other conditions as RBI may prescribe from time to time.

Total indebtedness of India

934. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR

YADAV RAVI: MISS

SAROJ KHAPARDE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of indebtedness of India upto December, 1992:

(b) what are the details of investment of this debt; and

(c) what are the proposals of Government to redeem India of such indebtedness?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR.

ABRAR AHMED): (a) The aggregate external debt of India (excluding defence debt) stood at US dollar 71.11 billion (Rs. 202972 crores) at the end of September, 1992.

(b) The aggregate debt consists of: mainly project loans under external assistance programme from bilateral and multilateral source (US dollar 39.90 billion or Rs. 115437 crore), balance of payments support by the IMF (US dollar 4.18 billion or Rs. 10830 crore), export credit (US dollar 2.92 billion or Rs. 8688 crore), commercial borrowings for public and private sector projects (US dollar 12.27 billion or Rs. 36190 crore), Nonresident Indian and Foreign Currency (Banks and Others) deposit (US dollar 9.87 billion or Rs. 26747 crore) and trade-related, short term debt (US dollar 1.96 billion or Rs. 5080 crore).

(c) It is the policy of the Government to reduce reliance on external borrowings as soon as possible by stepping up growth in exports and invisibles, and by encourage non-debt creating flows of capital in the form of foreign equity. In continuation of the policies already in place, a number of new measures have been announced by the Government in the Union Budget, presented to the Houses of Parliament on 27 February 1993 in this direction such as the unification of the exchange rate, reduction in the rate of interest on export credit, further reduction in customs tariffs on capital goods, reduction of short-term capital gains tax on foreign portfolio investment, etc.

Transfer of coins from Nagpur RBI to Bombay

935. SHRIMATI-CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that coins worth seven crores of rupees were doubly minted and were dumped in the vaults of the new RBI building at Nagi-pur from where these were recently reported to have been transferred back to Bombay in three instalments at an estimated cost of several lakhs of rupees;