

Bank branches in Jharkhand

397. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the density of bank branches in Jharkhand;
- (b) how does it compare with the States like Gujarat, Maharashtra, Punjab and Tamil Nadu and newly constituted State of Uttarakhand; and
- (c) what steps are being taken to improve the bank density in Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) As reported by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the Average Population per Bank Branch (APPBB) as on 31.3.2008 for Jharkhand compared with certain other States is as follows:

State	APPBB ('000)
Jharkhand	18
Gujarat	14
Maharashtra	15
Punjab	9
Tamil Nadu	12
Uttarakhand	9
All-India	15

(c) The banks are opening additional branches in the State, in order to improve the APPBB ratio in Jharkhand.

Credit Default Swap

398. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 'Credit Default Swap (CDS)' has emerged to be one of the important business instruments in the financial sector;
- (b) if so, salient features of CDS highlighting its distinction from other derivatives;
- (c) whether it is approved by the Reserve Bank of India;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the bank/financial institution-wise details of transactions made in CDS during the last three years, year-wise;
- (f) the bank/financial institution-wise details of CDS accounts remaining outstanding to be settled as on September, 2008 indicating the volume which fell over-due for settlement; and
- (g) the measures being taken by the regulators to ensure full settlement of commitments by parties involved in CDS transactions?