

(c) how many PSUs are at present operational and out of which how many companies are profit/loss-making and number of such PSUs that cannot be revived and in which net worth is zero?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The Government is following consistent policy on disinvestment. The policy of the Government is to develop people-ownership of public sector undertakings while ensuring that Government equity does not fall below 51% and that Government retains the management control of the company.

(b) It is not feasible to estimate the realization as the same would depend on various factors such as the percentage of equity to be disinvested, the prevalent market conditions, the time of actual disinvestment etc.

(c) As per Public Enterprises Survey 2007-08, as on 31.3.2008 214 Central Public Sector Enterprises are in operation and out of this 160 earned profits, 53 incurred losses and 55 had negative networth.

More accessibility to banks for minorities

2631. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to make the banks more accessible to the minorities; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) In order to strengthen credit flow to the Minority Communities, the Scheduled Commercial Banks including PSBs have been advised by the Reserve Bank of India, *inter-alia*, the following:

(i) To set up a Special Cell to be headed by a Deputy General Manager/Assistant General Manager or any other similar rank who should function as a 'Nodal Officer';

(ii) The Lead Bank in each of the Minority Concentration Districts should have an officer to exclusively look after the problems regarding the credit flow to minority communities;

(iii) The convener banks of the District Consultative Committees (DCCs) and the State Level Bankers Committees (SLBCs) should ensure that steps are taken to facilitate the flow of credit to the minority communities and the progress made in this regard is reviewed regularly at their meetings;

(iv) The Lead Banks functioning in the identified districts should organize Entrepreneur Development Programmes so that the members of the minority communities in these areas are enabled to derive the benefit of various programmes being financed by the banks.

In addition to above the Government has advised the PSBs, *inter-alia*, the following.

- To step up their lending to Minority Communities to 15% of their Priority Sector Lending by the end of 2009-2010.
- To open branches in identified Minority Concentration Districts/areas;
- To organize awareness campaigns in Districts/Towns/Blocks having substantial minority population and to organize publicity campaign of their loan products through print and electronic media and religious festivals;
- To monitor disposal of loan applications from Minority Communities.

Borrowings from foreign funding agencies

2632. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government takes external borrowings for specific projects from agencies like World Bank, Asian Development Bank etc.;

(b) if so, the details of such borrowings and the amount received, alongwith name of agency, details of projects and date of receipt;

(c) whether such amount has been spent on the specific project in time bound manner; and

(d) if so, the details of target expenditure and actual expenditure, year-wise and project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The agency-wise and project-wise details of external borrowings from World Bank, Asian Development Bank and other foreign funding agencies during the last three years from 2006-2007 to 2008-2009 are given at Annexure [See Appendix 217 Annexure No. 18]

(c) and (d) The project-wise details of target expenditure and actual expenditure during the last three years from 2006-2007 to 2008-2009 are given at Annexure [See Appendix 217 Annexure No. 19]

Autonomy for the Internal Audit Wing of the Income Tax Department

2633. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Internal Audit Wing which is under the administrative control of the Income Tax Department cannot afford to be free, fair and independent in raising audit objections against its own department; and

(b) whether it will not be just and necessary to make the Internal Audit Wing autonomous and independent by drafting the Internal Audit Wing personnel from the office of Accountant General and other sources instead of the Income Tax Department?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) It is not correct to say that the Internal Audit Wing cannot afford to be free, fair and independent in raising audit objections against its own department. During the period 01-06-2007 to 31-03-2009, 2,31,024 cases have been audited by the Internal Audit Wing and raised 32,935 objections involving