

(e) The amount of total assets seized by the Income Tax Department during Search and Seizure operations conducted in the last three financial year is as under :

Financial Year	Total Seizure (Rs. in Crore)
2007-08	427.82
2008-09	550.23
2009-10	786.27

Development of Gramin Banks

2452. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently convened a meeting with chiefs of the Gramin Banks to review the status of financial inclusion programme;

(b) if so, the details of discussions held with the chiefs of Gramin Banks;

(c) whether most of the Gramin Banks which were earlier known as Regional Rural Banks are running in losses;

(d) if so, the factors responsible for such losses; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to spread the network of Gramin Banks and also to upgrade technology so that the banks may not suffer losses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An Annual Review Meeting of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) was held on 25th July, 2010 under the chairmanship of Finance Minister. Review of the status of Financial Inclusion was one of the Agenda of the review meeting. The issues discussed in the meeting, inter-alia, included the following:

- * Credit Flow to Agriculture;
- * Current Viability;
- * Non-Performing Assets (NPA) position;
- * Capital-To-Risk-Weighed Assets Ratio (CRAR) position;

* Core Banking Solutions (CBS) in RRBs;

* Branch Expansion of RRBs, etc;

(c) As on 31.03.2010, 3 RRBs out of 82 RRBs were incurring losses. (Manipur Rural Bank – Rs. 2.98 crore, Pudukkottai Bharthiar Grama Bank – Rs. 0.22 crore and Mahakaushal Gramin Bank – Rs. 2.45 crore).

(d) The profitability of RRBs, as a segment, has been improving. However, some of the factors responsible for losses in RRBs are identified as; low recovery, high NPA, low business level, low productivity per branch and per staff, high cost structure, poor financial management, limited area of operation, non-viable level of operation in branches located in resource-poor areas etc. Further, one of the RRBs, namely Pudukkottai Bharthiar Grama Bank, which was set up in March 2008, has not yet reached a breakeven point.

(e) As on 31 March 2010, there were 82 RRBs with a network of 15475 branches spread over 619 districts in 26 States and 1 Union Territory. The following measures have been initiated to expand the outreach of the RRBs:

- * The RRBs were given a target in 2007 to open 2000 branches by March, 2011;
- * RRBs are required to migrate to Core Banking Solution (CBS) by September 2011 (As on date, 21 RRBs have already achieved 100% CBS status);
- * The Sponsor Banks would provide the required support to the RRBs sponsored by them for this purpose;
- * For up gradation of Technology for Financial Inclusion, the RRBs are being provided funds from Financial Inclusion Fund (FIF) and Financial Inclusion Technology Fund (FITF) by NABARD,

Agricultural Loan

2453. SHRI P. RAJEEV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the money allotted by public sector banks under agricultural loans;

(b) whether there is any increase during the last three years; and

(c) what is the percentage of the agricultural loans below one lakh rupees of total agricultural credit?