

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the RBI for not laying down any guidelines;

(c) whether the RBI is aware that the banks have engaged agents on a contractual basis to recover such loans from the consumers;

(d) whether the RBI has allowed banks to hire strong arm agents to recover loans through highly questionable ways; and

(e) if so, whether RBI will review its policies on these matters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India has laid down guidelines for lending to different sectors of the economy by public sector banks. Every bank has a well-defined loan policy duly approved by their respective Board of Directors. Banks, however, exercise their commercial judgement in lending to different sectors including consumer loans.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Outstanding Loans of Banks

†56. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of Nationalised Banks outstanding against big and medium industrial houses and since when;

(b) what steps Government have taken for its recovery and when such steps were taken; and

(c) by when the said amount is likely to be recovered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The total outstanding amount of scheduled commercial banks against big and medium industrial houses is about Rs. 247210 crores, out of which Rs. 29109.89 crores pertains to weak and sick large and medium scale industries.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.