

currency chest to RBI. In that case one clerk/shroff was dismissed from bank's service for being involved in cash shortages. The matter has been reported to the Police.

- (iv) In the forth instance, forged notes amounting to Rs. 1.85 lakh were inserted in the currency packets while sending cash remittances from a bank to another bank. In that case one cashier was dismissed from bank's service, and disciplinary action taken against one officer and head cashier who was involved in cash shortages. The matter was also reported to the Police.

Highest bed-patient ratio

*392. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the country has the second highest number of hospital beds in the world;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the bed patient ratio is one of the highest in the world;
- (c) if so, whether the hospital beds are available as per the requirements of patients; and
- (d) if not, how the Ministry is planning to address the issue scrupulously?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The National Health Report, 2009 States that 5,40,328 beds are available in 11613 Government hospitals. Increasing the beds strength in hospitals is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. In centrally run hospitals, Safdarjung, Dr. RML and Lady Harding Medical College and Associated Hospitals in Delhi, as in autonomous institutions such as AIIMS, PGIMER, Chandigarh and JIPMER, Puducherry, bed strength has steadily increased. Bed strength will further go up with several AIIMS like institutions being set up under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY). There has also been increase in bed strength through the NRHM and various schemes for up gradation of medical colleges.

Policy lapses due to termination of insurance agents

*393. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: