

(c) and (d) Information as sought for is not maintained centrally by the Reserve Bank of India and the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development.

Setting up of marine education training institute at Kandla

1439. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kandla Port Trust (KPT) intends to start a marine education training institute;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Central Inland Waterways Authority of India to implement its projects in Gujarat and how much fund has been allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Kandla Port Trust has agreed to allot 12.5 acres of land for setting up of Marine Engineering College through Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode at Kandla which will start functioning after the infrastructure is set up.

(c) There is no National Waterway in the State of Gujarat and hence Inland Waterways Authority of India does not have any such project in the State of Gujarat.

Insurance coverage for senior citizens

1440. DR. AKHILESH DAS GUPTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) and other public sector insurance companies do not cover senior citizen under various insurance schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial measures Government proposes to take to cover senior citizen under various insurance schemes when they need such cover the most?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has informed that they have different plans catering to various needs of the senior citizens. Depending upon the policy, maximum entry age varies from

65 to 79 years. Similarly, Public Sector General Insurance Companies have specially designed policies for senior citizens at the entry level in the age bracket of 60 to 80 years namely, Varishtha Bima Yojana, Health of Privileged Elderly (HOPE) and Senior Citizens Mediclaim Policy.

Loan given to SHGs in Maharashtra

†1441. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of loan distributed by nationalized, private and rural banks to the self-help groups (SHGs) and women savings groups of Maharashtra during the last three years along with the purpose thereof;

(b) the rate of interest at which the loan was provided to self-help groups and women savings groups;

(c) whether the steps are being taken or proposed to be taken by Government for promoting and strengthening these groups; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (d) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that during the year 2009-10, a total amount of Rs. 512.84 crore has been issued to 1,10,287 SHGs of which Rs. 404.61 crore has been issued to 81,983 women groups in Maharashtra. Details of loans disbursed to SHGs in Maharashtra by nationalized, private and rural banks during the last three years is given in Statement (*See below*). Cumulatively an amount of Rs. 15.75 crore has been sanctioned for promotion and linkage of 66,275 SHGs in the State of Maharashtra.

The interest rates charged by the banks have been deregulated by the Reserve Bank of India. Banks charge rates of interest as per the policy approved by their Boards.

NABARD provides promotional grant assistance for formation, nurturing and credit linkage of SHGs and capacity building of the stakeholders. A total number of 1.43 lakh stake holders comprising bankers, NGOs, Govt. officials, SHG leaders in the State of Maharashtra have been trained/provided exposure visits, etc with a view to strengthening the SHG Bank Linkages programme.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.