

(c) if so, what are the reasons for this discriminatory decision and whether this higher rate of interest will also be allowed to senior citizens holding Provident Fund Accounts in Branches of SBI and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Kelkar panel for changes in economic structure

†1201. SHRI ABU ASIMAZMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government constituted Kelkar panel to bring about basic changes in the economic structure;

(b) if so, whether the above panel has suggested some basic changes in this Ministry; and

(c) if so, the main points of suggestion for structural changes in his Ministry and the steps being taken by Government to change the structure in the Ministry in the light of abovesaid suggestion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) A working Group under the chairmanship of Dr. Vijay Kelkar was set up in September, 2002 to review the organizational structure of the Ministry of Finance. The working Group's suggestions, which broadly envisage reorganization of various divisions/work in the Ministry of Finance, provide valuable inputs to the continuing efforts to enhance efficiency and effectiveness of the Ministry.

Conversion of Stock Exchanges into companies

†1202. SHRI ABU ASIMAZMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to convert the stock-exchanges into companies, if so, the reasons therefor;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.