

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No, Sir. As per the Finance Accounts of the State Government of West Bengal for the year 2010-11, the total public debt and other liabilities of the State stood at Rs. 1,87,387 Crore as on 31st March 2011.

(b) to (e) A letter has been received from the State Government of West Bengal requesting an interest and repayment moratorium on the outstanding debt of the State (in the form of an annual grant) for a period of three consecutive years, which is under examination.

In accordance with the recommendations of Thirteenth Finance Commission (FC-XIII), for its award period 2010-15, the following public debt and interest relief measures have already been extended to the State of West Bengal :

- (i) Central loans (from Ministry of Finance) outstanding on 31st March 2010, amounting to Rs. 8633.50 crore have been consolidated for a fresh tenure of 20 years at an interest rate of 7.5% p.a. with effect from 1st April, 2010.
- (ii) Central loans from Central Sector Schemes/Central Plan Schemes (other than Ministry of Finance) outstanding as at the end of 2009-10, amounting to Rs. 1110.55 crore have been written off in March 2012.
- (iii) The loans contracted by West Bengal from the National Small Savings Fund till 2006-07 and outstanding at the end of year preceding the year of enactment of Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act (FRBMA), have been reset at 9% interest rate from the date of enactment of the FRBMA, i.e. 7-2-2011. An interest relief of Rs. 3.81 crore has been extended for 2010-11 and Rs. 269.32 crore for 2011-12.

Vacancies in the Central Government

2061. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of vacancies in Central Government as on 31st March, 2011; and

(b) the details of the vacancies, cadre-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) As per the information available, the estimated number of vacancies in respect of Central Government Civilian Employees as on 1st March 2010 was 5,33,936. The details of the vacancies cadre-wise are not centrally maintained.

Bringing Down NPAs of Banks

2062. SHRI A. A. JINNAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :