(c) whether there is any guideline to the Insurance Companies to start social work and schemes for the betterment of the Muslim Community; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) and General Insurance Public Sector Companies have informed that the total number of Muslim employees in each category in LIC and Public Sector General Insurance Companies is as follows:

Category	LIC	Public Sector General Insurance Companies
Class 1 Officers	530	367
Development Officers (Class II)	609	209
Class III	1355	606
Class IV	190	213

(c) and (d) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) has informed that it has not issued any guidelines to Insurance Companies to start social work and schemes for the betterment of the Muslim Community specifically. However, IRDA has notified IRDA (Obligations of Insurers to Rural and Social Sectors) Regulation 2002 for the purpose of making available insurance to all the population belonging to the vulnerable sections of society including people living below poverty line. Both the groups have geographical and occupational basis encompassing all religious communities.

Bilateral convention on avoidance of double taxation

1462. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and the United Kingdom have signed a Protocol amending the 1993 bilateral convention on avoidance of double taxation;

(b) if so, the details thereof and need for such a protocol;

(c) whether such a protocol exists between India and Mauritius; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A protocol amending the existing convention between India and the United Kingdom (UK) for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to taxes on income and capital gains was signed in London on 30.10.2012, the details of which are as under:

- The Protocol seeks to amend the Article on Exchange of Information by providing for exchange of banking information without domestic interest. It also provides for use of information for purposes other than taxation as allowed under the laws of both States and authorized by the competent authority of the supplying State.

- There is a new Article on Tax Examination Abroad, under which the competent authority may allow tax officers of the requesting State to enter the territory of the requested State to interview individuals and examine records to the extent permitted under the domestic law of the requested State.

- There is a new Article on Assistance in Collection of Taxes, which allows a revenue claim of a State to be collected in the other State, it also provides for interim measures of conservancy by freezing assets of the person against whom the claim is made.

- There is a new Article on Limitation of Benefits, which provides for limitations on the benefits to prevent treaty abuse.

- The Protocol seeks to extend the application of the convention to members of partnership, who are resident of UK.

- The Protocol seeks to amend the maximum rate at which the source country can tax dividend to 15% in case of dividend paid out of income derived directly or indirectly from immovable property and 10% on all other dividends.

The negotiations for amending the existing convention were initiated in pursuance to the commitment of the Government of India to vigorously pursue all necessary steps in coordination with the countries concerned on the issue of illegal money of Indian citizens stashed outside the country in undisclosed bank accounts.

(c) and (d) No Sir. The Government has proposed to review the India-Mauritius treaty to incorporate changes in the Double Taxation Avoidance Convention (DTAC) and for this purpose a joint Working Group (JWG) comprising the members from the Government of India and the Government of Mauritius was constituted and the JWG has had eight rounds of meetings. Next round of meeting is yet to be scheduled.

Additional powers to RBI

1463. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to grant additional powers to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to supersede bank boards in certain cases without amending banking laws;

(b) whether it is a fact that the RBI may enable to grant new banking licenses to private entities;

(c) the names of the business houses who have shown interest in entering the banking sector;

(d) the conditions laid down by the RBI to grant new licenses to business houses; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir. To empower the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) exercise more regulatory and supervisory powers over the banking companies, it is proposed to be notified as the 'appropriate Government' for the purposes of sections 388B to 388E of the Companies Act, 1956 relating to removal of managerial personnel.

(b), (d) and (e) RBI has issued draft guidelines for licensing of new banks in the private sector on 29.08.2011, whereby the following are the eligible promoters:

I. Only entities/groups in the private sector that are owned and controlled by residents shall be eligible to promote banks.

II. Promoters/promoter groups with diversified ownership, sound credentials and integrity that have a successful track record for at least 10 years in running their businesses shall be eligible to promote banks. RBI may