

of India (RBI) is vested with the powers under various provisions of Banking Regulation Act, 1949 (the Act) and Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA) to take penal action against banks for violation of provisions of these Acts or contravention of various instructions issued by RBI. In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (h) of sub-section (2) of Section 47 of FEMA, the RBI on 3rd May, 2000 has formulated regulations to promote orderly development and maintenance of foreign exchange market in India. RBI under provisions of Section 47A(1)(b) read with Section 46(4)(i) of the Act, imposed penalties on 19 banks on April 26, 2011 for contravention of various instructions issued by them in respect of derivatives, such as, failure to carry out due diligence in regard to suitability of products, selling derivative products to users not having risk management policies and not verifying the underlying/adequacy of underlying and eligible limits under past performance route.

(b) to (e) To rationalize the punitive action, the 19 banks were categorized into three groups based on the number of significant contraventions established during the course of the proceedings. Of the 19 banks, six banks which had five or more such contravention were penalized Rs.15.00 lakh each, eight banks which had less than five, but more than two such contraventions were penalized Rs.10.00 lakh each and five banks which had two such contraventions were penalized Rs.5.00 lakh each. The Government has reviewed the penalty regime under the Act and substantially increased the penalties by way of an amendment in the Act to establish an effective and dissuasive penalty regime for violations of the provisions of the Act. In terms of the provisions of the amended Act as amended by the Banking Laws (Amendment) Act, 2012, such penalty under the Act has been increased from Rs.5.00 lakh to Rs.1 crore and the daily penalty for continuance of the contravention or default has been increased from Rs.25,000 to Rs.1 lakh.

#### **Development of Yamuna river bank as eco-friendly site**

\*571. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is committed to save the Yamuna river bank from garbage dumping;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the National Green Tribunal has issued new directions to the

High Powered Committee to submit a comprehensive proposal to develop Yamuna River Bank into an eco-friendly site, free from pollution; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) An application No. 6/2012 is before Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) pertaining to removal of debris, solid waste, construction material etc. lying along the banks of River Yamuna. The NGT *vide* its orders dated 31st January, 2013 and 1st February, 2013 has directed the concerned officials of UP. Government, Government of NCT of Delhi, Delhi Development Authority and East Delhi Municipal Corporation to take appropriate action for removal of the debris lying along river Yamuna and also take steps to ensure that no further debris is dumped on the banks of the river. NGT has also directed the Municipal Corporations of Delhi, U.P and Delhi Development Authority to identified and notify the sites for dumping of the debris.

A Committee headed by Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Forests has been constituted by the orders of NGT to oversee the implementation of its directions.

(c) and (d) The National Green Tribunal *vide* its order dated 21st March 2013 directed the Committee to prepare a plan for development, beautification & upliftment of banks of river Yamuna in Delhi. The Delhi Development Authority has prepared a plan indicating the Master Plan, Zonal Plan and the areas taken up for development in the first phase.

#### **Shortage of mid level officers in PSU banks**

\*572. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of mid level officers in public sector banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has relaxed promotion norms to fill up these vacancies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and