

The steps taken by the Government and RBI have resulted in year-on-year improvement in recovery of NPAs by PSBs.

**Merger of DA of Central Government employees**

3139. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH:

SHRI SALIM ANSARI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Dearness Allowance (DA) of Central Government employees and pensioners is merged with the basic pay when it breaches the 50 per cent cap;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reasons for not merging the DA with basic pay as it has already breached 50 per cent mark?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The 6th Central Pay Commission has recommended not to merge dearness allowance with basic pay at any stage. Government has accepted this recommendation *vide* Resolution dated 29.08.2008.

**Credit advisory centres for MSMEs**

3140. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR:

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Credit Advisory Centres (CACs) have been established for entrepreneurs of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the main functions of such CACs; and
- (c) the number of CACs established so far likely to be established in the near future in Karnataka and Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) With a view to mitigate the various challenges