

Restriction on issue of cheques from saving bank accounts

224. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that professionals like Consultants, Doctors, Advisors, etc. cannot issue more than 10 cheques in a month from their Saving Bank Accounts;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the guidelines and restrictions on issue of number of cheques by the RBI for the Saving Bank Account holders in various Public/Private Sector Banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued a Master Circular dated 02.07.2012 on 'Customer Service in Banks' which, *inter-alia*, provides that banks may issue cheque books with larger number of leaves (20 or 25) if a customer demands the same and also ensure that adequate stocks of such cheque books (20/25 leaves) are maintained with all the branches to meet the requirements of the customers.

New Drug to fight TB

225. SHRI H.K. DUA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of a new TB drug having got the approval of the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA);

(b) if so, whether Government plans to allow the use of the drug in fighting TB in India;

(c) whether Government is going to step up research on drugs in India to fight TB which has shown revival in many parts of the country; and

(d) whether Government has worked out a strategy to evolve drugs to replace those which have become TB resistant?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes.