

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has recently asked the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to tighten the trading norms for currency derivatives in view of steep fall in rupee against US dollar, and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether SEBI would issue fresh norms in this regard in view of the above and serious irregularities by public and private sector banks during rupee fall in 2008, and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India had requested SEBI to consider measures with a view to restricting possible speculative activities in the exchange traded derivatives, *viz.*, currency futures and options. The suggested measures included restrictions on positions and increase in margin requirements. Consequently, based on mutual consultation between SEBI and RBI, on July 8, 2013, SEBI issued guidelines as under:

- (i) Margins: Initial and extreme loss margins were increased by 100% of the then rates for USD-INR contracts in Currency Derivatives.
- (ii) Client level position limits: The gross open position of a client across all contracts should not exceed 6% of the total open interest or 10 million USD, whichever is lower.
- (iii) Non-bank Trading Member position limits: The gross open position of a Trading Member, who is not a bank, across all contracts should not exceed 15% of the total open interest or 50 million USD whichever is lower.

Controlling of drug resistant TB

*102. SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an alarming increase of drug resistant TB cases in the country; and

(b) if so, the manner in which Government is trying to control and reverse this ominous trend?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Number of Drug Resistant TB (DRTB) cases detected

in last 3 years under the Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP) is as follows:

Year	MDR-TB Cases confirmed
2010	3288
2011	4279
2012	17390
2013 till June	11789

Programmatic Management of Drug-Resistant TB (PMDT) was started in some States in 2007. All States of the country have now been covered. Better diagnostic services have been made available across the country due to which more DRTB cases are detected.

Under the Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP), the best way to prevent emergence of DRTB is to implement quality Directly Observed Treatment Short-Course (DOTS) services.

Under the RNTCP, diagnosis and treatment facilities including anti TB drugs are provided free of cost to all TB patients. For quality diagnosis, designated microscopy centers have been established for every one lakh population in the general areas and for every 50,000 population in the tribal, hilly and difficult areas. More than 13000 microscope centers have been established in the country. Drugs are provided under direct observation and the patients are monitored so that they complete their treatment.

RNTCP has rolled out the PMDT Services across the country to diagnose and treat patients who develop drug resistant TB. Diagnostic services & treatment with quality drugs are provided free of cost under the programme.

A Case Based Web Based System has also been developed to keep track of treatment of TB patients. TB Patients diagnosed and treated in the private sector are being notified to the RNTCP for better management. In addition, commercial serological tests have already been banned because of unpredictable results in diagnosing active tuberculosis.

A number of private organizations, NGOs, professional bodies like IMA and pharmacist associations have been involved for advocacy of use of standard, rational anti TB regimes, as per RNTCP guidelines.

Appointment of SKO wholesalers in UP

†*103. SHRI JUGUL KISHORE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State Government of Uttar Pradesh (UP) has submitted any proposal to the Central Government for enhancing the number of wholesalers of Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO) for ensuring better distribution;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and
- (c) the time by when additional wholesalers are likely to be appointed in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) The Central Government has not received any proposal from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for enhancing the number of wholesalers of Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Action plan for checking chit fund frauds

*104. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has devised certain action plan or policy measures to control chit funds and such other frauds in the country, and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the end-result of such as Sarada chit fund of Kolkata, in refunding the life-savings that had been deposited by various individuals with the company; and
- (c) whether the State or the Central Government has sanctioned certain amounts to compensate the members of this chit fund, and if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.