

(d) the details of the cases in which violation of rules have been established against real estate companies during last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and shall be placed on the table of house.

Guidelines for bank locker

1890. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not making guidelines for bank locker holders to provide authentic information about their belongings, which are put in bank lockers, as currently there is no proper mechanism in this regard and in case of fire or theft took place in bank lockers, bank authorities are hesitating to pay compensation, as they are unable to assess properly about belongings; and

(b) whether Government is aware about the fact that, money and gold and diamonds which are not disclosed before authority, are put in bank lockers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The existing guidelines on bilateral locker agreement between the banker and the customer do not specify the need to confide about the contents of the lockers.

Under the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guidelines, Banks are required to exercise, among others, due care and necessary precaution for the protection of the lockers provided to the customer, including observing the security and other procedures.

Scam in Amanath Co-operative Bank

1891. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI:

SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there have been a serious scam in the Amanath Cooperative Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government to safeguard the interest of the depositors;

(c) whether it is also a fact that for the last six months the depositors are only allowed to withdraw Rs.1000/- and if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the management of the bank has siphoned off more than Rs.120 crores from the bank;

(e) if so, the action taken by Government to remove the management and institute a CBI enquiry into the scam; and

(f) if not, the reasons for not taking any action in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (f) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that there have been serious irregularities in the functioning of the Amanath Cooperative Bank since 2002 relating to mismanagement and violation of RBI directives etc. such as extending loans and advances to the directors and their relatives, extending unauthorized loans sanctioned/diverted/siphoned off in a fraudulent manner and settling old Non-Performing Account (NPA) accounts of ex-directors/relatives with concessions, in contravention of Bank Regulations (BR) Act, 1949 (As applicable to Cooperative Societies).

Accordingly, the RBI advised Registrar of Cooperative Societies (RCS), Karnataka in August, 2003 to supersede the Board of Directors of the Bank and appoint an Administrator in addition to initiating criminal proceedings against the ex-directors/officials of the Bank and conduct thorough voucher audit of the Bank from the year 1996 onwards.

The RCS, Karnataka superseded the Board of the Bank and appointed Administrator on 5th December, 2006 which continued upto September, 2012 thereafter elections were held and a new Board was constituted on 3rd October, 2012.

In view of precarious financial position of the Bank, directions under Section 35A of the BR Act, 1949 (AACS) were imposed on the Bank in September, 2006. The directions were lifted in April, 2007 after supersession of the Board by RCS.

However, on account of deteriorating financial health of the Bank, all-inclusive directions were again imposed by RBI in April, 2013 to safeguard the interest of the depositors.

In terms of these directions, the Bank is permitted to allow each depositor to withdraw a sum not exceeding Rs. 1000/- of the total balance in every savings bank or current account or any other deposit account provided that wherever such depositor is having liability to the Bank in any manner, *i.e.* either as borrower or surety, the amount may be adjusted first to the relevant borrowal account(s).

The RBI have reported that an enquiry has also been conducted by RCS, Karnataka under the provisions of Karnataka Cooperative Societies Act (KCS) Act, 1959 and criminal case has also been registered by the Bank against the ex-directors/officials in February, 2011.

Disappearance of coins from circulation

†1892. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has stopped printing of one rupee note, but it has been found that one rupee note is in circulation in the market in large quantity;

(b) the action being taken by Government on the fact that it issues coins of one, two and five rupees from time to time but these old coins are disappearing from the market; and

(c) the action being taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Printing of one rupee note had been stopped by the Government of India during 1990s. These notes continue to be legal tender and therefore in circulation.

(b) and (c) The following steps have been taken by the Government and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to ensure availability of coins:

- (i) More remittances of coins are being sent to the Currency Chests (CCs) in the areas from where shortage is reported.
- (ii) Regional offices of RBI have been advised to keep minimum balances in their vaults and in Currency Chests (CCs) to ensure availability of coins to bank branches and members of public in every state.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.