

Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has not spent any amount out of the Rs. 5.120 crore of investors money received from the Saharas (Sahara India Real Estate Corporation Ltd., and Sahara Housing Investment Corporation Ltd.) towards its own expenses.

- (b) No Sir.
- (c) Does not arise in view of reply (b) above.

Upgradation of pension of pre-2006 pensioners

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

(a) whether Department of Personnel and Training have issued certain instructions for up-gradation/re-fixation of basic pension of pre-2006 pensioners, with payment of arrears from September, 2012;

(b) whether certain Departments have issued fresh PPOs for such pensioners that are lying unattended to in the Central SBI office which processes payment of pension to them;

(c) whether it is a fact that a number of such old-aged pensioners are afflicted with one or the other ailments and need additional monetary help to fast address their afflictions; and

(d) if so, whether Government will expedite payment of their arrears on humanitarian ground to address their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes, on the recommendations of a Cabinet Secretary's Committee on 24.09.2012, Union Cabinet approved the proposal for stepping up of pension of pre-2006 pensioners at 50% of the minimum of pay in the pay band plus grade pay corresponding to the pre-revised scale arrived at on the basis of fitment tables for fixation of pay. The orders in this regard have been issued on 28.01.2013. These orders are effective from 24.09.2012.

(b) Being the authorizing authority for pension payment, on the basis of the above O.M. and Special Seal Authorities received from Civil Ministries/Departments, CPAO issues Special Seal Authorities (PPO) to various banks including SBI for making payment. No fresh cases received by SBI upto 30.11.2013 are lying unattended and all the cases have been processed by them.

(c) The normal physiological aging process results in decrease in body stamina as well as decline in body immunity. This makes elderly physically weak and more prone to diseases and disabilities.

(d) On the basis of instructions/orders issued by Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare, Ministry of Finance, etc. from time to time the PPO's and subsequent amendments are sent by concerned Pay & Accounts Offices to CPAO for arranging payment to the pensioners through banks. In order to address the grievances of pensioners, a system for monitoring grievances redressal was set up in March, 2011. As and when any grievance related to pension is received in CPAO, the same is taken up immediately with banks and monitored till final settlement.

Internal control system in PSBs to combat frauds

508. SHRI C.M. RAMESH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has asked the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) to set up internal control systems to combat frauds, to take proactive fraud control and enforcement measure related to net banking;

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken by PSBs in this regard;

(c) whether such steps have reduced the crime related to net banking/debit/credit cards; and

(d) if so, the number of crimes related to net banking during the last 5 years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has been sensitizing banks and general public against the fictitious offers of cheap funds/lottery winnings etc. from abroad sent by fraudsters. Various advisories were issued by the Bank cautioning the members of public against responding in any manner to offers of money from abroad.

Further, RBI had set up a working group on "Information Security, Electronic Banking, Technology Risk Management and Tracking Cyber Frauds" in April 2010. RBI vide their circular No. DBS.CO.ITC.BC.No. 6/31.02.008/2010-11, dated April 29, 2011 advised banks to implement the guidelines based on recommendation of the Working Group. Key areas of focus of the guidelines were on information security, cyber frauds and customer education. The guidelines are fundamentally expected to enhance safety, security, efficiency in banking processes leading to benefits for banks and their customers.