

(b) to (f) As per information received from Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of School Education & Literacy, certain instances of fraudulent withdrawal have been reported under Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) by States. Andhra Pradesh reported embezzlement of Rs. 14.98 crore under District Primary Education Policy (DPEP)/SSA accounts in 2006-07. An FIR was lodged and the State Criminal Investigation Department (CID) investigated the matter. The State Government suspended three Accounts Officials, and transferred another three out of the State Project Office of SSA. In West Bengal, an amount of Rs.5.18 crore was fraudulently withdrawn by eight officials in one district, where the CID has arrested seven persons and proceedings are under way. In Himachal Pradesh FIR was lodged on a complaint of misuse of SSA funds and an amount of Rs.3.02 lakhs has been recovered. In 2010-11 in Kerala, there was unauthorized withdrawal of Rs.10.00 lakhs and the case is under investigation. In 2010-11 in Bihar, an embezzlement of Rs.80.39 lakhs was reported in Nalanda Bihar Sharif and the matter is under investigation by the State Vigilance Department. In 2010-11 in Orissa, an embezzlement of Rs.1.70 lakhs was reported in Ganjam District and the case is pending in court.

In Maharashtra, an embezzlement of Rs.89.42 lakh in 2010-11 and fraudulent withdrawal of Rs. 10 lakhs in 2011-12 was reported where the State has ordered investigation and FIR has also been lodged. In Assam during 2010-11, fraudulent transaction of Rs. 140 lakhs has been reported and the case is under Investigation even though the amount has been credited back. In Uttar Pradesh during 2011-12, in District Pratapgarh, an amount of Rs. 2.41 lakhs was fraudulently withdrawn and inquiry has been ordered and the matter is under investigation.

The Government of India has directed the States/Union Territories (UTs) to recoup the inadmissible expenditure to the State SSA programmes. The States/UTs have also been strictly instructed to avoid recurrence of such instances in future.

#### **Forum of tax administration group of the world**

2513. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is a member of the Forum on Tax Administration Group of the world;

(b) whether this Group of world nations has agreed to exchange information on offshore tax evasion;

(c) whether India has received any information from this group till date to address the frauds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM): (a) Yes, Sir. India is a member of the Forum on Tax Administration (FTA).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) India has been receiving information from the FTA member countries from time to time. However, such information is governed by the relevant, confidentiality provisions of Agreements with member countries enabling exchange of information.

#### **Application for new banking licenses**

2514. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had received 26 applications for new bank licenses and the successful applicants were expected to be announced by the first quarter of 2014;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the eligibility norms and regulations proposed by the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee were followed in every stages right from submission of applications to finalizing the successful applicants; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and probable list of short listed applicants and their respective turnover and value?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued guidelines for setting up new banks in the private sector vide its Press Release dated 22.02.2013. The last date for receipt of applications was 01.07.2013. In all, RBI has received 27 applications, out of which 2 applications (i.e. TATA Sons Limited, Mumbai and Value Industries Limited, Aurangabad) have since been withdrawn. The names of remaining applicants are as under: