

**Reduction in Government stakes in PSBs**

997. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering a proposal to reduce its stake in Public Sector Banks (PSBs) to 51 per cent; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) A proposal for allowing Public Sector Banks to raise capital from public market by diluting Government of India holding upto 52% in phased manner is under consideration.

**Revenue Forgone**

998. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of tax forgone during the last five years ending on 31 March, 2014;

(b) the amount of tax foregone due to concessions/tax relief to the industry and to the gold importers; and

(c) the returns to the economy due to such revenue forgone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) The details of total amount of revenue forgone due to various concessions/tax relief given under direct and indirect taxes is given below:

Financial Year	Tax Revenue Forgone under direct and indirect taxes (₹ in crore)
2009-10	482432
2010-11	459705
2011-12	533582
2012-13	566235
2013-14*	572923

\* Provisional.

Tax concessions/relief given to goods/commodities and industry as per the policy of the Government. Standard Gold having gold content not below 99.5%, bearing manufacturer's or refiner's engraved serial number and weight expressed in metric units, is subjected to basic customs duty of 10% w.e.f. 13.08.2013. This is also the statutory

(tariff) rate of customs duty on gold. Thus, as per the definition of revenue forgone which is “the difference between the duty that would have been payable but for the exemption notification and the actual duty paid in terms of the said notification”, there is no revenue forgone in respect of standard gold w.e.f. 13.08.2013.

(c) The Ministry of Finance has not made any assessment of the returns to the economy due to such revenue forgone since these concessions/exemptions are given in public interest for fulfilment of various policy objectives including protection to small-scale sector, promotion of industrial development of backward areas, encouragement of domestic value addition, regulation of prices of essential commodities, implementation of international treaty obligations and promotion of exports, etc.

#### Monitoring of investments through PNs

999. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge investments are flowing into the country through Participatory Notes (PNs) during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is properly monitoring such investments through SEBI and other financial investigation authorities for safeguarding the country's financial system; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of month-wise Notional Value of outstanding PNs on Equity & Debt and Derivatives for the current year is as under:

As on the last day of the Month	Notional Value of outstanding PNs on Equity & Debt and Derivatives * (in ₹ crore)
1	2
January -14	163,348
February -14	172,738
March-14	207,639