

RuPay Debit Card

67. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons availing of the RuPay Debit Cards payment system, State-wise; and

(b) whether Government is planning to popularize its use through private sector banks and if so, in what manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) As per information received from National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), the number of RuPay debit cards issued by banks as on December 2014 is more than 9.38 crore. NPCI does not collate State-wise data of card issuance.

(b) Besides Public Sector Banks (PSBs), 12 Private Sector Banks also issue RuPay Debit Cards at present.

Changes in ECB norms

68. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has introduced changes in External Commercial Borrowing (ECB) norms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this decision was taken with a view to liberalize and expand the option of securities and consolidating various provisions related to creation of charge over securities for ECB at one place; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Based on prevailing macroeconomic situation and requests received from certain sectors, the following major changes have been introduced in the ECB norms since April 1, 2014;

(i) May 9, 2014: ECB from overseas branches/subsidiaries of Indian banks for the purpose of refinance/repayment of the Rupee loans raised from the domestic banking system was disallowed in respect of this:-

(a) Scheme of take-out financing

(b) Repayment of existing Rupee loans for companies in infrastructure sector