

Loan norms for low cost houses

490. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India(RBI) has relaxed the guidelines for Granting Loans to low cost houses; and

(b) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA) : (a) and (b) RBI, *vide* circular DBR.BP.BC.No.74/08.12.015/2014-15 dated March 5, 2015 on "Housing Loans: Review of Instructions" has allowed banks to add stamp duty, registration and other documentation charges to the cost of the house/dwelling unit for the purpose of calculating Loan to Value ratio, in cases where the cost of the house/dwelling unit does not exceed ₹ 10 lakh. This has been done with a view to encourage availability of affordable housing to borrowers from economically weaker sections (EWS) and low income groups (LIG).

Delay in infrastructure projects in the country

491. SHRI AHMED PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of infrastructure projects are running behind the schedule in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, sector-wise and State-wise;

(c) the amount of financial loss incurred due to these delays, sector-wise; and

(d) the reasons for the delay, the steps taken by Government in this regard and the outcomes of these steps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA) : (a) to (d) As per information received from the Project Monitoring Group (PMG), 231 projects, in sectors such as coal, civil aviation, mines, petroleum, power, roads etc. are pending as on 18.4.2015 for resolution of issues at different levels, for want of various clearance, land etc. The PMG was set up in the Cabinet Secretariat with a view to putting in place an institutional mechanism to track stalled projects, both in the public and private sectors and to remove implementation bottlenecks in these projects, to proactively pursue projects involving investment of ₹ 1000 crore or more, or any other critical projects in sectors such as infrastructure, manufacturing, etc. In addition, steps

are also being taken to simplify and rationalize the rules and procedures to expedite various clearances. Further, e-PMS portal has been customized for the States to fast track the projects between 50 crores to 1000 crores. As on date, such portals are available to the project proponents to upload the issues of stalled projects in 17 States, in addition to Central portal (for projects of 1000 crores and above). As on 18.4.2015, PMG has resolved 217 projects.

Service tax evasion by CONCOR

492. SHRI A. W. RABI BERNARD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Railways, Container Corporation of India (CONCOR) and a number of private companies are facing investigations for service tax evasion to the tune of ₹ 1000 crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Private Container Train operations in connivance with the Indian Railways evaded paying service tax by taking advantage of the relaxation given by Government for goods transported by train;

(d) whether the Director General of Central Excise Intelligence (DGCEI) has issued a show cause notice of ₹ 700 crore to Indian Railways, CONCOR alongwith a private company; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Complaints regarding working of PSBs

493. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently there are growing number of complaints regarding the working of Public Sector Banks (PSBs);

(b) if so, the details of such complaints received and disposed of during the last three years, bank-wise; and