

**Payment Bank License to Postal Department**

1678. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to give payment bank license to Postal Department.

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the range of banking products to be provided by such payment bank; and

(c) the time by when the Post Bank of India is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has received 41 applications for Payments Bank including that of Department of Posts. The licensing process is in progress and no decision has been taken as yet.

(b) The Payments Banks will be set up as a differentiated bank and shall confine its activities to further the objectives for which it is set up. The payments banks would be permitted to set up its own outlets such as branches, Automated Teller Machines (ATMs), Business Correspondents (BCs), etc. to undertake only certain restricted activities permitted to banks under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949. These, *inter-alia*, include, acceptance of demand deposits, issuance of ATM / debit cards, offering payment and remittance services, internet banking services and functioning as Business Correspondence of another bank.

(c) The “in-principle approval” issued by RBI will be valid for 18 months from the date of granting such in-principle approval and would thereafter lapse automatically. As such, any applicant, if given an “in-principle approval” will have to set up the Payments Bank within 18 months of such approval.

**Remittance received and credit rating**

1679. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India again tops in 2014 list of remittance chart;

(b) whether it is also a fact that more than 70 billion was sent by Indian workers working in various parts of the world to India in 2014;