

Recovery of excess payment to retirees

1020. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the banks were collecting excess or wrong payments from the retirees;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India has been receiving complaints from the retirees in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that RBI has asked the banks to follow rules on excess recovery from retirees; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the banks in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (d) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has informed that it had issued a Circular dated 17.03.2016 to all Scheduled Commercial Banks informing that complaints had been received from pensioners regarding recovery of excess / wrong pension payments being made in a manner that was not in conformity with the extant guidelines. RBI *vide* the above circular had reiterated its earlier instructions in this regard issued in 1991 whereby uniform procedure was laid down in consultation with Controller General of Accounts and various non-civil Ministries for recovery of excess / wrong payment.

As per the RBI guidelines Banks are required to ensure that as soon as the excess / wrong payment made to a pensioner comes to the notice of the paying branch, the branch should adjust the same against account standing to the credit of the pensioners account to the extent possible as per the uniform procedure circulated *vide* RBI guidelines dated 1991 and reiterated *vide* circular dated 17.03.2016.

The Banks were asked to strictly adhere to the uniform procedure while effecting recovery of excess / wrong pension payments made to pensioners.

Relief package towards Thane Cyclone Relief

1021. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) relief amount sought by Government of Puducherry towards the Thane Cyclone relief in 2011-12;

(b) amount sanctioned by the Government as a relief package;

(c) how much was released to Government of Puducherry;

(d) whether it is a fact that an amount of ₹50 crores was adjusted by re-appropriation from Plan to Non-Plan budget estimates of 2011-12; and

(e) if so, will the Government agree that an amount of ₹70 crores committed by the Government is still due to the Government of Puducherry along with re-appropriated amount of ₹50 crores?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA):

(a) Union Territory of Puducherry had projected an amount of ₹ 2435.67 crore in the wake of Thane Cyclone of 2011.

(b) and (c) An amount of ₹ 125.00 crore was sanctioned and released to Government of Puducherry.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. Out of the ₹125 crore released to the Union Territory of Puducherry, a sum of ₹50.00 crore was sanctioned from the Normal Central Assistance (Grants to meet Non-Plan Deficit) under Non-Plan Head provided to the Government of Puducherry for relief and rehabilitation of victims of Cyclone, "Thane". The remaining sum of ₹75.00 crore was released to the Government of Puducherry from the Non-Plan grant of Puducherry during 2011-12, which was enhanced by way of re-appropriation.

Disinvestment of PSUs

1022. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government is planning to continue disinvestment of PSUs;

(b) if so, the major PSUs listed for the disinvestment in financial year 2015-16 and percentage of shares earmarked for disinvestment; and

(c) the targeted amount to be collected from the disinvestment process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA):

(a) to (c) Disinvestment in Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) is undertaken as per the extant disinvestment policy of the Government.

The details of CPSEs disinvested during 2015-16 is as under: