

Opening of public account by UTs

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

(a) how many Union Territories have opened public account in response to the directions from the Home or Finance Ministries;

(b) whether any Union Territory has declined to comply with the direction of the Government and, if so, the action taken against such a UT; and

(c) whether Government will permit Government of Puducherry to revert to the General budget account as prevailed prior to 2007 in view of the stringent financial position faced by it?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) The Union Territories without Legislature are treated as part of the Union Government and there is no need for creation of the Public Account by these Union Territories. Out of two Union Territories with Legislature *viz.* Puducherry and NCT of Delhi, Puducherry has opened Public Account in pursuance of Ministry of Home Affairs notification and operationalized it from 01.04.2007.

(b) Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) was requested by Ministry of Home Affairs to frame rules for market borrowing and a separate Public Account as per the provisions contained in GNCTD (Amendment) Act, 2001. However, GNCTD has not yet done so. GNCTD has been informed by MHA that the power under Section 47A of GNCTD (Amendment) Act, 2001 regarding market borrowings shall not be exercised by GNCTD till Public Account for GNCTD was created as required under Section 46A of GNCTD (Amendment) Act, 2001.

(c) No such proposal is under examination or has been examined in past.

Achievement of targets under Stand up India Scheme

*45. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of loans disbursed to women applicants and applicants from tribal and Scheduled Caste communities till date, under the Stand up India Scheme;

(b) whether Government has achieved the targets regarding number of beneficiaries under the Scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and