Source: RBI (domestic operations, Mar 18 provisional data)

Operating of common service centres as business correspondents of banks

- 670. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government will work to enable all 2.9 lakh common service centres in the country to operate as business.correspondents of banks;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that these centres will be allowed to perform many more services; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHIV PRATAP SHUKLA): (a) to (d) As per the Reserve Bank of India's extant guidelines dated

^{*} Asset Quality Review (AQR) carried out in 2015 for clean and fully provisioned bank balancesheets revealed high incidence of NPAs. Expected losses on stressed loans, not provided for earlier under flexibility given to restructured loans, were reclassified as NPAs and provided for PSBs initiated cleaning up by recognising NPAs and provided for expected losses. The aggregate gross NPAs of PSBs increased primarily as a result of this transparent recognition of stressed assets as NPAs.

28.9.2010 on financial inclusion by extension of banking services, banks may, *inter alia*, engage Common Service Centres (CSCs) as their Business Correspondents (BCs). Further, the activities to be undertaken by the BCs would be within the normal course of the bank's banking business, but conducted through the BCs at places other than the bank premises/ATMs.

The guidelines also provide that banks may formulate a policy for engaging BCs with the approval of their Board of Directors. Due diligence may also be carried out on the individuals/entities to be engaged as BCs, prior to their engagement.

Rise of Indian money in Swiss bank

671. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

KUMARI SELJA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Indian money in Swiss banks rose 50 per cent to over 7000 crore in 2017:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
 - (c) why the Government failed in getting the black money from abroad; and
- (d) by what time, the Government would bring back black money stashed abroad, and the action initiated against the guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHIV PRATAP SHUKLA): (a) and (b) Swiss authorities have shared the following information regarding the Swiss National Bank (SNB) figures quoted in the media "The figures published by the SNB are regularly mentioned in the Indian media as a reliable indicator of the amount of assets held with Swiss financial institutions in respect of Indian residents. More often than not, the media reports have not taken account of the way the figures have to be interpreted, which has resulted in misleading headlines and analyses. Moreover, it is frequently assumed that any assets held by Indian residents in Switzerland are undeclared (so-called 'Black Money').

Further they have said "To analyze Indian residents' deposits held in Switzerland, another data source should be used. This is the so-called "locational banking statistics", " which the SNB collects in collaboration with the Bank for International Settlements (BIS)."