

interest in acquiring 51% controlling stake in the bank. In this regard, it may be noted that both LIC and IDBI Bank Limited are Board-driven entities, and take their decisions as per extant policy and regulatory framework. After consideration of LIC's offer by the Board of IDBI Bank limited, the bank has sought Government's decision in the context of Government's stake coming down below 51% as a result of the proposed acquisition. The matter is under Government's consideration.

Rise in NPAs of Scheduled Commercial Banks

691. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gross Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) of scheduled commercial banks have increased by about 231 per cent from ₹ 2,51,054 crores in the year March, 2014 to ₹8,31,141 crores in the year March, 2018;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the names of the companies to whom loan worth more than ₹500 crores have been given by the scheduled commercial banks during the last four years; and

(d) the quantum of loan amount recovered from those companies so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHIV PRATAP SHUKLA): (a) and (b) Asset Quality Review (AQR) carried out in 2015 for clean and fully provisioned bank balance-sheets revealed high incidence of Non-Performing Assets (NPAs). Expected losses on stressed loans, not provided for earlier under flexibility given to restructured loans, were reclassified as NPAs and provided for. Public Sector Banks (PSBs) initiated cleaning up by recognising NPAs and provided for expected losses. As a result of transparent recognition of stressed assets as NPAs, the aggregate gross NPAs of scheduled commercial banks (as per Reserve Bank of India's data on domestic operations), increased from ₹ 2,51,054 crore, as on 31.3.2014 to ₹ 9,61,962 crore, as on 31.3.2018 (provisional data).

(c) and (d) With regard to the names of the companies to whom loan worth more than ₹500 crores have been given by scheduled commercial banks and the quantum of loan amount recovered therefrom, RBI has informed that under the provisions of section 45E of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, RBI is prohibited from disclosing credit information. Section 45E provides that credit information submitted by a bank shall be treated as confidential and not to be published or otherwise disclosed.