

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2019
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2000
MERGER OF ANZ GRINDLAYS WITH STANDARD CHARTERED BANK
BASUDEB ACHARIA;SAMAR CHOUDHURY

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have not taken notice of the ANZ Grindlays Bank's merger move with Standard Chartered Bank and asked for details of staff redeployment policy after acquisition as well for honouring the ANZ Grindlays Bank's undertakings to the court on the arbitration award in scam related cases of 1992; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to monitor the action plan of these banks and safeguard the interests of bank employees?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL):

(a) and (b) Standard Chartered Bank, London had informed Reserve Bank of India (RBI) the regulator of the banking system in country, that it proposed to acquire the issued shares of ANZ Grindlays Bank, Australia, a subsidiary of Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited under a sale agreement signed by them on 27.4.2000. RBI's permission had been sought for change of name of ANZ Grindlays Bank Limited as Standard Chartered Grindlays Bank Limited. RBI have conveyed their 'No objection' in principle to Standard Chartered Bank for the change of name of ANZ Grindlays Bank Limited, India to Standard Chartered Grindlays Bank Limited. RBI has further reported that:

(i) Standard Chartered Bank had advised that all staff, whether employees of Grindlays or (to be renamed Standard Chartered Grindlays Bank) or Standard Chartered Bank will be treated fairly and equitably.

(ii) Standard Chartered Bank has advised that in relation to Grindlay's disputed liability to NHB and other litigation relating to alleged irregularities in security transactions out of the jurisdiction of Special Court, Standard Chartered Bank gives an assurance to the RBI that any unpaid liabilities arising out of final court judgement against Grindlays (to be renamed as Standard Chartered Grindlays Bank Limited) will be met by Standard Chartered Bank, London.