

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2507

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2005

GENERAL CREDIT CARD

Khan Shri Mohammad Tahir;Kushwaha Shri Narendra Kumar;Manvendra Singh Shri ;Patle Shri Shishupal Natthu;Shahid Shri Mohammed;Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to issue General Credit Cards for the villagers involved in non-agricultural activities on the pattern of Kisan credit cards as reported in `Dainik Jagran` dated the November 19, 2005 ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have prepared a plan for mobile banking in such rural areas which lacks the regular banking facilities;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government have prepared a plan to extend loans to the villagers throughout the year; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM)

- (a) & (b) :- A proposal for introduction of a General Credit Card (GCC) Scheme to cater to the credit needs of all types of small borrowers, without hassles and with a simplified procedure, is being examined by the Reserve Bank of India.
- (c) & (d) :- Under the extant Branch Authorization Policy, banks are free to open mobile offices and satellite offices in rural areas where they are unable to open full fledged branches. Reserve Bank of India considers such requests sympathetically.
- (e) & (f):- The Bank Branches extend loans to eligible borrowers against viable projects all round the year.