

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1426
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2006
UNCLAIMED DEPOSITS
Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of deposits lying unclaimed in various nationalized banks in Andhra Pradesh due to the death of account holders or in the absence of any nominee declared by such account holders;
- (b) the total amount involved in this respect as on December 31, 2005;
- (c) the details of amount lying unclaimed for more than five years and ten years respectively; and
- (d) the procedure laid down by the Government to dispose of such amount?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

a), (b) & (c) :- Data reporting system of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) does not generate the information state-wise, as asked for in the question. The data is collected only bank-wise.

`Section 26 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 provides, inter-alia, that every banking company shall, within 30 days after close of each calendar year submit a return in the prescribed form and manner to the Reserve Bank of India as at the end of each calendar year (i.e. 31 December) of all accounts in India which have not been operated upon for 10 years'. Accordingly, the latest available data of nationalized banks as on 31 December 2004 (latest available) of unclaimed bank accounts is rupees 651.29 crores.

(d) : RBI have issued instructions to banks on the unclaimed deposits lying with them that deposit accounts which have not been operated upon over a period, say two years, should be segregated and maintained in separate ledger/s.

Banks have been advised by RBI that they should ensure that their branches follow-up accounts which remained inoperative for a year or so by sending suitable advice to the customers and if the said letters are returned undelivered, they may immediately be put on enquiry to find out the whereabouts of customers or their legal heirs in case they are deceased.