

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the ceiling on quantum of public deposits to be accepted by Housing Finance Companies (HFCs) was fixed with effect from April 1, 1989. The fixation of ceiling was considered necessary as public deposits are unsecured and as such restricted access was not considered desirable. The instructions issued by National Housing Bank (NHB) on June 26, 1989 are similar to those of RBI, containing regulatory provision relating to ceiling on quantum of deposits, period, maximum interest rate, brokerage payable, maintenance of liquid assets, compliance of advertisement rules, submission of returns and balance sheets. These regulatory measures are intended to safeguard the interest of depositors. Removal of the ceiling on public deposits would not be prudent as unlimited, unsecured public deposits could put these companies into a financial bind.

[English]

Pension to Employees of Erstwhile Bank of Baghelkhand

8294 **SHRISUKHENDRA SINGH:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Bank of Baghelkhand, and undertaking of erstwhile Rewa State Government (now in Madhya Pradesh), after abolition of the State, was wholly owned by Union Government and thus its assets, liabilities and obligations rested with Union Government

(b) whether the Central Government civil pension rules were applicable to the pensioners of the Bank of Baghelkhand after retirement.

(c) whether minimum pension as applicable to Central Government pensioners

was paid to the pensioners of the Bank of Baghelkhand upto December, 1988 and thereafter minimum pension was reduced to the amount applicable to the pensioners of the State Government of Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

Influx of Tourists in Southern Part

8295 **SHRI VAMANRAO MAHADIK:** Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that due to continuous disturbances in the Northern and North-Eastern region in the country, there is influx of the domestic and foreign tourists to Southern and other parts of the country,

(b) if so, the measures taken by Government to meet the influx in the Southern India and the special arrangements made for the provision of basic amenities for the tourists there, and

(c) whether this changed trend will have any effect on the foreign exchange earnings and if so, the extent thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) There is a growth in the domestic and foreign tourist traffic to Southern States. It is due to the combined effect of several factors, including promotional efforts for Southern parts of the country.

(b) Improvement of tourism infrastruc-