

(b) the advantages of permitting nationalised banks to enter leasing activities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The names of the nationalised banks to whom licences have been given to enter into leasing activities are given below :

1. State Bank of India
2. Bank of India
3. Oriental Bank of Commerce
4. Indian Overseas Bank
5. Punjab National Bank

(b) Entry of commercial banks in leasing will help them to expand their existing range of operations and ensure increased financial assistance to medium and large industries for replacement of their machinery as well as for their modernisation programmes. It will also lead to upgradation of the technological base of the industry, besides enhancing the profitability of banks.

**Deduction of Commission and Postage Charges on Pay Bills by Nationalised Banks in South Kanara**

6490. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the nationalised banks particularly in South Kanara district in Karnataka have been deducting commission and also Rs. 5/- towards postage charges on the pay bills of the Government High School teachers unilaterally; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to issue directions to the nationalised banks to stop deducting commission and postage stamps ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and

(b). The banks generally do not charge commission on local cheques. If a cheque for a consolidated amount is received by the school authorities from the concerned Government Department. The service charges of the banks for its collection should be borne either by the concerned school authorities or the Government and not by the teachers. In case, the amount is remitted by the concerned Government Department to the School authorities by means of a draft, the remittance charges are to be borne by the remitter i. e. Government. Here too, there is no question of levy of service charges on the teachers. In case the State Government issue cheques towards safaries in the names of individual teachers, it is felt that the State Government should devise a procedure under which either the disbursements are made through local cheques or the relating service charges of banks are borne by the State Government or the concerned school authorities. Payments of salaries to their employees is the responsibility of the State Govts. It would not be correct to expect that the costs involved in disbursement of the State Govts. wages/salaries should be subsidised by the public sector banks by way of free of cost collections/remittances.

The banks are endeavouring to achieve uniformity in levying service charges and it would not be correct to say that the charges are something special for South Kanara.

**Establishment of Institute of Tourism and Hotel Management in Karnataka**

6491. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Karnataka have sought permission to establish Institute of Tourism and Hotel Management in Karnataka; and

(b) if so, whether permission has been granted therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM