

However, in terms of the banking practice which has developed over a period, the banks permit guardians to open and operate accounts on behalf of minors subject to taking adequate safeguards. The question who would be the natural guardian of a minor is dependent upon the Personal Law as applicable to the minor. However, keeping in view the problems faced in the matter of opening of accounts in the names of minor children with mothers as guardian, Reserve Bank of India had advised the commercial banks in 1976 to permit opening of accounts (fixed and savings accounts only) in the names of minors with mothers as guardian after taking adequate safeguards in allowing operations in the accounts.

In the case of Life Insurance Corporation of India, in respect of certain types of children *Deferred Assurances*, the Corporation permits a parent including mother or a legal guardian or a near relative to sign as proposer. However, the father as natural guardian of the minor child has to submit the proposal on the lives of minors where risk is desired to be covered *immediately* during minority. If the father is not alive, mother can submit the proposal as the natural guardian. If the parents of the minor are separated or not staying together, the Corporation accepts the proposal from the mother as a special case.

Assistance to Rubber Cultivators

2025. SHRI GEORGE JOSEPH MUNDACKAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rubber Board is adequately financed to discharge its obligations towards rubber cultivators;

(b) whether Government propose to provide more finances to various developmental schemes for rubber cultivators;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether existing minimum purchase price of rubber is remunerative to farmers; and

(e) if not, whether Government propose to raise it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE: (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) to (c). Rubber Board is financial within the available Plan Resources to discharge its obligations towards rubber cultivations in the best possible way. Rubber Board has been allotted adequate funds to carry out different development schemes from year to year. The requirement of funds of Rubber Board under the approved plan schemes of the Seventh Plan is Rs. 53.43 crores, which has already been allotted. Considering the additional requirement of funds, releases have been made in excess of this amount to Rubber Board. The Planning Commission has also been approached for allocating additional funds to Rubber Board.

(d) and (e). Government's endeavour is to ensure fair remunerative returns to the growers as also steady supply of natural rubber to the consuming industry at reasonable prices.

Indira Vikas Patra

2026. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any dead line has been fixed for the purchase of 'INDIRA VIKAS PATRA';

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Scheme is not limited to any specified period.

Exhibitions by Soviet Foreign Trade Organisation

2027. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Soviet Foreign Trade Organisation recently organised exhibitions in certain parts of the country;

(b) if so, the names of the places where exhibitions were organised with details thereof; and

(c) the details of business made in these exhibitions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b). The following exhibitions were recently organised in India by the Government of USSR in association with the Soviet Foreign Trade Association and the USSR Chamber of Commerce & Industry:

- i) Business Information Exhibition, Calcutta, September 1-5, 1988
- ii) Business Information Exhibition, Ranchi, September 18-23, 1988
- iii) Business Information Exhibition, Bhuvaneshwar, September 18-23, 1988

(c) These exhibitions were held exclusively by the Soviet side and there was no participation by the Trade Fair Authority of India. Hence details of the business booked are not available.

Over-bridges at Alwar and between Level Crossings 114-115 on Delhi-Ahmedabad Route

2028. SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for construction of over-bridge near Alwar railway station in Rajasthan has been approved;

(b) whether State Government of Rajasthan and Urban Improvement Trust, Alwar have agreed to provide their share of finance for this project;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far in this regard;

(d) whether construction of over-bridge between level crossings 114 and 115 on Delhi-Ahmedabad meter-gauge route has been included in the works programme of the Railways; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Rajasthan have agreed to bear their share of the cost of the work.

(c) and (d). The estimated cost of the work is Rs. 277.24 lakhs which will be shared by the Railways (Rs. 120.49 lakhs) and the State Government (Rs. 156.75 lakhs). The proposal will be included in the Railways Works programme for 1989-90 along with similar proposals received from the other States and presented to the Parliament, in due course, for approval.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Publishing of Diaries and Calendars by Banks

2029. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Yeh Kaisa Bachat Abhiyan" appearing in Jansatta of 18 October, 1988;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government for checking recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). Government have seen the news-item referred to in the Question. Government had earlier advised