GOVERNMENT OF INDIA FINANCE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5068 ANSWERED ON:10.12.2010 OVERSEAS EXPOSURE OF INDIAN BANKS Abdulrahman Shri

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total exposure of all banks in India in Euro Currency spot as well as forward contracts due to economic crisis of Greece;

(b) whether the Government has assessed the impact of such crisis on the interests of Indian Exporters whose business is exposed to the economy of Greece; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereon?

Answer

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a): In terms of Reserve Bank of India guidelines the banks have to report on a daily basis the spot and forward contracts entered as a part of Forex Turnover Data and also report on half yearly basis, cross currency derivatives (other than forwards) entered by banks with market participants. However, the data so collected are not currency specific or country specific.

(b) & (c): In view of the crisis in Greece, with a view to protect the interests of Indian exporters, Export Promotion Councils have been advised that while advance payment by importers in Greece could be the best option, it may not always be practical. Depending upon the promptness in payments in the past and the present economic status of the Greek importer, the exporters in India may take a decision on a case to case basis. Exports should, however, be against an irrevocable letter of credit only.