

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:348
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2010
UNCLAIMED DEPOSITS WITH BANKS
Mishra Shri Mahabal

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of deposits lying unclaimed with the scheduled commercial banks as on date, bank-wise;
- (b) the existing policy in regard to the utilization of the unclaimed deposits lying with these banks;
- (c) whether the Reserve Bank of India proposes to bring some changes in the said policy for the better utilization of unclaimed deposits;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

FINANCE MINISTER (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) TO (E) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION 348 ON 3RD DECEMBER, 2010 TABLED BY SHRI MAHABAL MISHRA REGARDING UNCLAIMED DEPOSITS WITH BANKS

(a):- According to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) the unclaimed deposits lying with Scheduled Commercial Banks as on December 31, 2009 are as under:-

No. of Accounts	Amount of Unclaimed Deposits
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10171368	Rs. 1360.32 crore
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The bank-wise details are given in Annex A, B and C.

(b) to (e):- RBI has not formulated any scheme for utilisation of such funds. The amount of unclaimed deposits lies with the respective banks and is utilised by them for their general business like any other deposits. However, Government has conceived a proposal, in consultation with RBI, that the deposit accounts which have not been operated upon for a period of ten years or any amount remaining unclaimed with any bank for more than ten years will be credited, within three months from the expiry of the said period of ten years, to a fund called 'Depositor Education and Awareness Fund' and the fund is proposed to be utilised for promotion of depositors' interest and for such other purposes as may be specified by RBI from time to time. Government is contemplating to amend the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 for creating the 'Depositor Education and Awareness Fund'. However, a depositor or any other claimant could claim his deposit or unclaimed amount or operate his deposit account from or with the bank after the expiry of said period of ten years and such bank shall be liable to repay such deposit or amount at such rate of interest as may be specified by the Reserve Bank in this behalf. The bank would claim refund from the authority or the committee constituted by RBI to administer the fund.