

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1650
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2012
SEALING OF BANK ACCOUNTS
Dhurve Jyoti

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether instances of banks sealing the accounts of holders without information come to the notice of the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the number of such bank accounts in the banks, the account holders of which are either non-operative or have died and said accounts have been seized for a long time; and
- (d) the action being taken by the Government to check such inhuman approach of the banks?

Answer

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri Namo Narain Meena)

(a) to (d): Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has informed that as on 31.12.2011, the number of accounts of Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) which have not been operated upon for more than 10 years is 1,12,49,844. The data received from all commercial banks is compiled by Returns Division, DBOD, RBI and forwarded to Ministry of Finance, Government of India. Keeping in view public interest, RBI has advised all SCBs to play a more pro-active role in finding the whereabouts of the account holders whose accounts have remained inoperative. Further, banks have also been advised to display the list of inoperative accounts which are inactive / inoperative for 10 years or more, on their respective website by 30.06.2012 and keep their websites updated at regular intervals.