

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1813

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2013

BANKS FOR WOMEN

Pradhan Shri Nityananda;Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up all women banks in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the criteria adopted and the places identified for the purpose, State/UT-wise; and
- (c) the time at which it is likely to be functional?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (c): In pursuance of the Finance Minister's Budget Speech for the year 2013-14, Government has finalized the proposal to start the Bharatiya Mahila Bank Ltd. with 6 branches, one each in North, South, East, West, Central and North Eastern parts of India. The move to set-up Bharatiya Mahila Bank Limited is aimed at encouraging women in general and women Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in particular. A need was also felt to establish the Women's Bank to facilitate access to financial services, promote asset ownership, women entrepreneurship and participation of women in economic activities to provide impetus to the process of inclusive growth and also their empowerment. The bank is to be established by November, 2013.