

**Fourteenth Lok Sabha****Session : 6****Date : 14-12-2005****Participants : Chakraborty Shri Ajay**

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Title : Down-sizing of Foreign Department of the State Bank of India in Kolkata.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of this august House to a serious matter. Recently the authorities of the State Bank of India have taken a decision to partially shift the foreign exchange department from Kolkata to Mumbai and Delhi. This decision is very unjust, unwise and unwarranted. Earlier, the name of the State Bank of India was the Imperial Bank. The head office of the Imperial Bank was situated at Calcutta. Thereafter, the name was changed to State Bank of India and the head office was shifted to Mumbai. Since then the foreign exchange department of the State Bank of India is functioning at Kolkata very efficiently and effectively and till this date the foreign exchange department has been earning more and more profits from Kolkata.

Earlier, the NDA Government took a decision to shift this foreign exchange department to Mumbai. Due to your intervention, the intervention of other MPs and the intervention of the employees' union it was stopped. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Now I am totally powerless!

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Now you cannot do anything. I know.

Sir, due to the intervention of the employees' union that decision was abandoned and stopped by the earlier Government. The sorry state of affairs is that during the regime of the UPA Government the SBI authorities have taken a decision to partially shift this foreign exchange department to other places. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANIL BASU (ARAM BAGH): Sir, the hon. Minister of Finance is here. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Sir, the foreign exchange department is functioning very effectively and efficiently at Kolkata. Through you, Sir, I demand the Government of

India to immediately withdraw and revoke this decision and restore the earlier position so that the foreign exchange department can function from Kolkata only.. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : That will be recorded. I have found the hon. Minister of Finance very closely listening to it.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Sir, I want to know the reaction of the hon. Minister. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANIL BASU : Sir, we would like to know his reaction. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I do not want his instant reaction.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Sir, through you we request the hon. Minister to respond.

MR. SPEAKER : That has gone to his ears. He was very attentively listening.

SHRI ANIL BASU : Sir, he can answer it.

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will be recorded.

(*Interruptions*) ... \*

SHRI ANIL BASU : Sir, two days before he delivered a speech in Kokata where he praised it so much saying that it led to a better economy. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANIL BASU : Sir, he is nodding his head. I want to know whether it is in agreement or disagreement. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot compel him to answer. Then every hon. Member will ask for immediate responses. No. Chaudhary Lal Singh to speak now.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Please cooperate with the Chair.

... (*Interruptions*)

चौधरी लाल सिंह (उधमपुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपकी इजाजत से जम्मू कश्मीर के एक चैनल... (व्यवधान)  
आप हमारी बात भी सुनिए।... (व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: Please cooperate.

... (*Interruptions* [\[R24\]](#))

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\* Not Recorded.