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Title: Need to take steps to improve the condition of Public Sector Banks in the country.

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SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN (VADAKARA): It is highly distressing that many of our nationalised Banks, which were known for their efficiency and performance, are today in the red mainly due to the non-recovery of bad loans running into thousands of crores. The common man is put to untold hardships for non-payments of the small loans taken by him whereas big business houses, corporate etc. are allowed to walk scot free after getting their huge dues written off. There is every reason to suspect that our nationalized banks, which were pride of our nation, are being deliberately pushed into loss - ultimately leading to privatization. We have seen the consequence of disinvestment of many prestigious Public Sector Undertakings by the previous NDA Government leading to total sell out. It appears that a similar situation is fast emerging to sell out our public sector Banks also. I urge upon the Government to take urgent steps to retrieve the Nationalized Banks from the present plight and to strengthen them.