

FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) An Interim non-statutory Insurance Regulatory Authority was set up in January 1996 with the objective to prepare a comprehensive legislation to establish an autonomous Insurance Regulatory Authority, conceptually similar to SEBI. In the Budget Speech 1998-99 it has been announced that the insurance sector would be open to competition from private Indian companies and the Insurance Regulatory Authority will also be converted into a Statutory Body. Necessary legislation will be introduced later in the year.

ATM System in Banks

2597. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Bank of India has introduced the ATM system in the various branches of Delhi and other parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some annual charges are realised from customers for availing of this ATM facility;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(e) whether various types of ATM card are issued by the State Bank of India to its customers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCE AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) As reported by the State Bank of India (SBI) 23 ATMs have been installed at its various branches spread all over the country. Out of these 23 ATMs three are in Delhi (Sansadiya Soudh, Special Personal Banking Branch on Sansad Marg and Kamla Nagar), 8 in Mumbai and one each at Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Bhilai, Bhopal, Bhubaneshwar, Calcutta, Chandigarh, Chennai, Hyderabad, Jamshedpur, Lucknow and Patna.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) SBI has issued three types of ATM Cards to its customers with daily withdrawal limits of Rs. 3,000/-, Rs. 5,000/- and Rs. 9,900/- respectively.

Export of Iron Ore by MMTC

2598. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation Limited has secured iron ore export order from Japan of Rs. 650 crores recently; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The break-up of the quantity to be supplied to Japan during 1998-99 will be as follows:-

(i) Baladilla mines of National Minerals Development Corporation in M.P. : 2.4 million tonnes of lumps and 1 million tonne of fines.

(ii) Bellary-Hospet Sector in Kamataka: 2 to 2.3 million tonnes of iron ore lumps and fines.

(iii) Mines in Bihar, Orissa Sector: 3 to 5 lakh tonnes of iron ore lumps.

(iv) Kudremukh Iron Ore Company: 1 million tonne of iron ore concentrate inclusive of 2,50,000 tonnes of silicious concentrate.

Garment Export Quota

2599. SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to increase the garment export quota to European Union and United States; and

(b) the new policy regarding anti-dumping duty taxes being imposed by European Union and United States?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) The garment export quota are agreed to in bilateral textiles agreement with the European Union and the United States. These agreements are regulated under the provision of the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing. Neither in bilateral agreement nor in WTO Agreement on Textiles and clothing there is a provision for increase in quota.

(b) European Union and United States conduct anti-dumping investigations and impose duties as per their national legislation. The Government of India is assisting the Indian exporters in defending their anti-dumping cases in European Union and United States.

Open-Ended Debt Fund of UTI

2600. SHRI K.S. RAO :
SHRI MAGANTI BABU :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Unit Trust of India has recently launched its first open-ended 100 per cent debt fund;