

New Decision of Foreign Banks in India regarding Savings Banks Account and Fixed Deposits

*351 SHRI C. CHITTIBABU:
SHRI SAMAR GUHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the latest decision of foreign banks in India like the National and Grindlays Bank and First City National Bank to impose a penalty if the minimum balance in savings account is below Rs. 500/-and also not to accept fixed deposits of less than Rs. 2500/-.

(b) if so, whether the permission of the Reserve Bank of India in this regard was necessary and whether such a permission was granted; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take prevent these banks from discouraging small savings?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):
(a) to (c) According to the amendments to the savings bank rules of the National and Grindlays Bank Ltd., which come into effect from October 1, 1973, the minimum balance to be maintained in the accounts is Rs 250/- and for accounts with cheque facility Rs. 500/-. Contravention of the rule will result in a service charge of Rs. 10/- per half year. The minimum balance for fixed deposit receipt has been raised to Rs. 2,500/-. The First National City Bank has prescribed minimum balance of Rs. 500/- on savings account, with service charge of Rs. 10/- per quarter for contravention. The minimum balance for fixed deposit is Rs. 5,000/- in this bank with effect from 1st April 1973. Permission of the Reserve Bank is not necessary for such amendments.

Excepting for the rate of interest on deposits, there are no other conditions imposed by the Reserve Bank on the operations of deposit accounts with commercial banks including

foreign banks. Moreover, it is open to the savings depositors, who are not in a position to comply with the conditions prescribed by these two banks to bank with other banks, particularly the Indian Banks.

वास्तविक उपभोक्ताओं द्वारा ऊनी चिचड़ों का आयात

*352. श्री हुकम चन्द कड़वाय : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कितनी मिले ऊनी चिचड़ों के आयात के लिए वास्तविक उपभोक्ताओं की श्रेणी में आती है , और

(ख) क्या सरकार ने वास्तविक उपभोक्ताओं को ऊनी चिचड़ों के आयात की अनुमति दे दी है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री ए० सी० जार्ज) :

(क) ऊनी चिचड़ों के आयात के प्रयो-
अनर्थ-27 प्राधिकृत शाही कर्तित वास्तविक प्रयोजनताओं की श्रेणी में आते हैं ।

(ख) जी हा ।

Saving sought to be created by Economy Drive launched by Government at Central and State levels

*353. SHRI N. K. SANGHI:
SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched an economy drive at the Central level and have also asked the State Governments to live within their own means;

(b) if so, the total amount of saving that is sought to be created as a result of the drive and by stopping Central assistance to the State Governments, separately; and