

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †2047

To be answered on the 14th March 2022/ Phalguna 23, 1943 (Saka)

Privatisation of PSBs

†2047. SHRI HAJI FAZLUR REHMAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any decision to privatise the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) recently and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether the said privatisation of Banks shall affect the availability of loans for the small traders, farmers and weaker sections and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE
(DR. BHAGWAT KARAD)

(a) and (b): In the Union Budget for the financial year 2021-22, Government's intent to take up privatisation of two Public Sector Banks (PSBs) and approval of a policy of strategic disinvestment of Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) was announced. As per the highlights of the policy, the objectives of the policy include enablement of growth of public sector enterprises through infusion of private capital, thereby contributing to economic growth and new jobs, and financing of social sector and development programmes of the Government. With regard to the privatisation of Banks affecting availability of loans to small traders, farmers and weaker sections, all the domestic commercial banks, including the private sector banks (PVBs), are presently, extending benefits of credit to/for the above mentioned sections/segment. Further, all the commercial banks including PVBs also extend credit to small traders, farmers and weaker sections under the mandated priority sector lending guidelines of Reserve Bank of India.
