

(b) whether banks have been instructed to make an analysis or requirements of establishing new branches in rural areas of Tamil Nadu and take prompt action thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (b) As per information received from State Level Banker's Committee (SLBC) convenor bank, Tamil Nadu, 258 bank branches have been opened in rural areas and 594 branches have been opened in semi-urban areas during the last three years. Banks have been suitably instructed by the SLBC Convenor to identify potential unbanked rural centres and to open branches in such centres.

Target of disinvestment

3448. SHRI Y. S. CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has fixed any disinvestment target for the financial year 2011-12;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of amount raised till date through disinvestment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) The Budget Estimates from disinvestment have been estimated at Rs. 40000 crore for the year 2011-12 and Rs. 30,000 crore for the year 2012-13. The estimates were revised at RE stage to Rs. 13,144.55 crore.

(c) During 2011-12, an amount of Rs.13,894.05 crore was realized from disinvestment in Power Finance Corporation Limited and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited. In 2012-13, till date, receipts are Rs.124.97 crore from disinvestment in National Building Construction Corporation Limited.

Tax collection and Reforms thereof

3449. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has fixed any target/estimate for tax collection for the year 2011-12;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of net tax collection made till date against the Budget Estimate for the year 2011-12;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has asked its field units to go slow on clearing refunds; and