GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *18

ANSWERED ON TUESDAY 22ND JULY, 2025 / ASHADHA 31, 1947 (SAKA)

RISING BANK FRAUDS

*18. SHRI RANDEEP SINGH SURJEWALA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number and total value of bank fraud cases (above ₹1 lakh) reported in the last three financial years, public sector and private sector bank-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the total value of frauds nearly tripled in the years 2022-23 to 2024-25 to ₹36,014 crore; and
- (c) whether there is evidence of increasing sophistication in large-value frauds, if so, in what manner Government plans to further strengthen early-warning systems, bank oversight frameworks, and cyber resilience to better contain emerging financial crime risks?

ANSWER

<u>FINANCE MINISTER</u> (SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) in respect of Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. *18 for reply on 22.7.2025 regarding Rising bank frauds asked by Shri Randeep Singh Surjewala.

- (a): Bank-wise and year-wise details of frauds in public sector and private sector banks, in respect of amount involved of Rs. 1 lakh and above in each case and by the date of reporting, for the last three financial years are at **Annex-1** and **Annex-2** respectively.
- (b): As per the Reserve bank of India (RBI) data on frauds in respect of amount involved of Rs. 1 lakh and above in each case and based on the date of reporting, amounts involved in fraud cases in commercial banks and all India financial institutions were Rs. 18,979 crore in FY 2022-23, Rs. 12,231 crore in FY 2023-24 and Rs. 36,013 crore in FY 2024-25.

The sudden increase in frauds reported during FY 2024-25 was primarily due to fraud reclassification by banks after re-examination and ensuring compliance with the judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Civil Appeal No. 7300 of 2022 in the matter of State Bank of India & Ors. Vs. Rajesh Agarwal & Ors. dated 27.3.2023. It is also pertinent to note here that these cases have occurred in previous years. As per RBI inputs, 122 fraud cases with amount involved Rs. 18,674 crore pertaining to previous financial years were reported afresh in FY 2024-25 by banks after complying with the directions mentioned in the said judgement. Fraud classification in these cases were earlier withdrawn by banks due to non-adherence with the aforesaid judgement. Additionally, amount involved in frauds in respect of amount involved of Rs. 1 lakh and above in each case and by the date of occurrence were Rs. 4,451 crore in FY 2022-23, Rs. 4,893 crore in FY 2023-24 and Rs. 1,037 crore in FY 2024-25, which is the lowest since FY 2015-16.

(c): To curb the rise of sophisticated digital payment frauds, RBI has introduced Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)/ Additional Factor of Authentication (AFA) validation, online transaction alerts, switch on/ off facility, setting up limits, confidentiality and integrity of customer data, robust KYC (Know Your Customer) & Enhanced due diligence (EDD) and AI/ML-based realtime transactions monitoring. Further, RBI has also mandated the banks to have robust internal audit and controls, Early Warning Signals (EWS) and Red Flagging of Accounts (RFA), timely reporting to LEAs, Data Analytics and Market Intelligence Unit for strengthening risk management systems.

Further, to strengthen security of digital transactions, RBI reviews the cyber security developments and threats on an ongoing basis and necessary measures are taken to strengthen the cyber resilience of banks. Cyber incidents are analysed from the point of view of sophistication of attack as well as systemic impact and are categorised as critical, high, medium, and low categories. Wherever required advisories/alerts are issued by RBI to all banks to avoid occurrence of similar incident in other banks. In order to focus more attention on IT related matters, RBI has also set up a Cyber Security and IT Examination (CSITE) Cell within its Department of Supervision in 2015.

In addition, comprehensive steps have been taken by the Government and RBI over the last few years to prevent and to deter instances of bank frauds, to address issues related to loan defaults and to expedite the investigation of bank fraud cases include, *inter alia*, the following:

- (i) An online searchable database of frauds reported by banks, in the form of Central Fraud Registry, has been set up by the RBI to enable timely identification, control and mitigation of fraud risk.
- (ii) Credit discipline was instilled through—
 - (a) enactment of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code; and
 - (b) setting up of the Central Repository of Information on Large Credits (CRILC) by RBI to collect, store and disseminate credit data to lenders.
- (iii) Under the PSB Reforms Agenda, comprehensive and automated Early Warning Systems (EWS) were instituted in PSBs, with ~80 EWS triggers and use of third-party data for time-bound remedial actions in the borrowing accounts to proactively detect stress and in turn reducing slippage into NPAs.
- (iv) The Fugitive Economic Offenders Act has been enacted to provide for measures to deter fugitive economic offenders from evading the process of law in India by staying outside the jurisdiction of Indian courts.
- (v) PSBs have been advised to obtain certified copy of the passport of the promoters/directors and other authorised signatories of companies availing loan facilities of more than Rs. 50 crore.
- (vi) Prudential Framework for resolution of stressed assets was issued by RBI to provide a framework for early recognition, reporting and time bound resolution of stressed assets, with a build-in incentive to lenders for early adoption of a resolution plan.
- (vii) Banks have been advised by RBI to report deficient third-party services (such as legal search reports, property valuers' reports, *etc.*) and collusion of these service providers with fraudsters to the Indian Banks' Association, which maintains a caution list of such service providers.
- (viii) The Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) has operationalised Citizen Financial Cyber Fraud Reporting and Management System (CFCFRMS) portal for immediate reporting of financial frauds and to stop siphoning-off of funds by the fraudsters. Up to January 2025, more than Rs. 3,919 crore has been saved in more than 11.20 lakh complaints.
- (ix) Cyber Fraud Mitigation Centre (CFMC) has been established at I4C with representatives of major banks, Financial Intermediaries, Payment Aggregators, Telecom Service Providers, IT Intermediaries and States/UTs Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) to work together for immediate action and seamless cooperation to tackle online financial crimes.
- (x) Seven Joint Cyber Coordination Teams (JCCTs) have been formed to foster a close cooperation among LEAs during interstate cybercrime investigations. It focuses on operational cooperation in parallel investigations in various States/UTs.
- (xi) National Cyber Forensic Laboratory has been setup as a facility for forensic analysis and investigation of cybercrime by use of the latest digital technology to support investigations undertaken by LEAs.

Rajya Sabha Starred question no. *18, regarding Rising Bank Frauds

Frauds in Public Sector Banks based on the date of reporting, in respect of amount involved of Rs. 1 lakh and above in each case

(Amounts in crore Rs.)

	FY 2022-23		FY 20)23-24	FY 2024-25		
Bank	Number	Amount	Number	Amount	Number	Amount	
		Involved		Involved	Nullibel	Involved	
Bank of Baroda	203	491.42	1,354	345.08	665	574.95	
Bank of India	188	570.32	181	953.65	131	1,449.24	
Bank of Maharashtra	66	878.11	99	26.04	192	942.10	
Canara Bank	140	1,038.86	138	1,085.50	439	4,951.14	
Central Bank of India	161	371.48	366	167.24	340	115.05	
Indian Bank	105	461.63	563	194.26	357	2,110.58	
Indian Overseas Bank	96	1,150.06	455	25.78	177	38.25	
Punjab And Sind Bank	103	128.14	38	19.77	86	388.46	
Punjab National Bank	215	918.15	423	1,624.17	228	3,177.55	
State Bank of India	1,648	4,359.17	3,355	2,803.69	4,012	7,663.92	
UCO Bank	207	1,043.66	100	174.34	108	338.45	
Union Bank of India	199	1,146.24	388	1,834.77	200	3,917.37	

Source: RBI

Rajya Sabha Starred question no. *18, regarding Rising Bank Frauds

Frauds in Private Sector Banks based on the date of reporting, in respect of amount involved of Rs. 1 lakh and above in each case

(Amounts in crore Rs.)

	FY 2022-23		FY 2023-24		FY 2024-25	
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Bank	Number	Amount Involved	Number	Amount Involved	Number	Amount Involved
Airtel Payments Bank Limited	34	1.54	206	4.94	72	1.12
American Express Banking Corporation	192	7.51	235	13.19	144	4.81
AU Small Finance Bank Limited	54	6.60	463	14.93	790	18.30
Axis Bank Limited	1448	429.59	3395	215.74	3396	944.35
Bandhan Bank Limited	146	31.41	779	40.66	620	41.50
Bank of America, National Association	2	0.07	-	-	-	-
BNP Paribas	-	-	-	-	1	0.14
Capital Small Finance Bank Limited	3	0.03	9	1.08	2	0.16
Citibank N.A.	201	39.60	1437	31.06	66	2.58
City Union Bank Limited	31	16.66	246	32.55	207	110.63
Coastal Local Area Bank Limited	-	-	-	-	1	0.04
CSB Bank Limited	145	10.40	200	20.58	84	10.81
DBD Bank India Limited	15	91.52	248	9.09	67	20.13
DCB Bank Limited	12	1.52	111	10.83	134	5.49
Deutsche Bank AG	19	1.61	30	37.65	25	19.80
Doha Bank QSC	-	-	-	-	-	-
Emirates NBD Bank (P.J.S.C.)	-	-	-	-	1	0.35
Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited	62	4.80	135	8.87	181	17.96
ESAF Small Finance Bank Limited	24	1.40	55	2.87	36	4.23
Federal Bank Limited	169	159.29	764	108.67	261	73.71
Fincare Small Finance Bank Limited	56	6.74	63	12.57	_	-
Fino Payments Bank Limited	27	1.24	161	6.34	37	5.02
HDFC Bank Limited	1462	505.52	6453	805.18	3688	633.33
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited	127	3.97	232	18.10	585	34.90
ICICI Bank Limited	1415	365.53	7086	712.55	2783	581.75
IDBI Bank Limited	238	1915.36	175	31.65	150	6128.79
IDFC First Bank Limited	87	22.28	268	12.13	221	16.54
India Post Payments Bank Limited	6	3.64	37	1.71	2	0.03
IndusInd Bank Ltd	2080	171.92	1710	54.80	1141	166.23
Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited	19	380.04	33	241.33	34	198.17
Jana Small Finance Bank Limited	25	1.31	37	1.11	11	0.20
Jio Payments Bank Limited	-	-	3	0.04	1	0.01
Karnataka Bank Limited	40	143.64	76	159.44	117	348.73
Karur Vysya Bank Limited	38	209.58	132	16.67	62	83.49
Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited	703	71.30	896	96.65	306	69.90
Krishna Bhima Samruddhi Lab Limited	-	-	2	0.10	4	0.42
MUFG Bank Limited	1	6.49	-	-	-	-
Nainital Bank Limited	2	0.20	10	3.08	21	23.61
North East Small Finance Bank Limited	4	0.26	6	0.81	7	0.35

Paytm Payments Bank Limited	1	0.40	65	22.24	1	0.03
RBL Bank Limited	627	274.62	1334	51.22	547	49.95
SBM Bank (India) Limited	8	1.02	30	0.93	11	11.79
Shinhan Bank	1	0.46	-	-	2	0.31
Shivalik Small Finance Bank Limited	1	0.19	6	0.21	10	0.59
South Indian Bank Limited	67	62.59	144	65.50	78	118.32
Standard Chartered Bank	238	139.38	687	44.20	546	85.81
Suryoday Small Finance Bank Limited	13	1.22	21	1.56	33	4.12
Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Limited	88	43.85	12	10.65	32	96.34
The Dhanalakshmi Bank Limited	12	160.96	41	4.93	22	4.82
Ujjivan Small Finance Bank Limited	49	6.76	194	16.10	93	5.41
Unity Small Finance Bank Limited	1	0.11	4	0.12	13	3.15
Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Limited	19	1.50	26	3.86	41	3.69
Yes Bank Limited	142	229.83	344	27.69	329	381.44

Source: RBI