

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES  
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 777

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2018/ AGRAHAYAN 3, 1940 (SAKA)  
PSB Branches Abroad

777. SHRI K. PARASURAMAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether about 159 branches of Public Sector Banks (PSBs) are operating in foreign countries and of which 41 branches made losses in 2016-17; and
- (b) if so, the details of fresh initiatives taken/being taken towards capital conservation exercise of these PSB branches abroad?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance  
(SHRI SHIV PRATAP SHUKLA)

(a) and (b): As per input received from PSBs, 172 branches of PSBs were operating in foreign countries as on 31.3.2017, out of which 136 branches were in loss in the financial year 2016-17. Banks have apprised that various initiatives have been taken by them in this regard, including, *inter alia*, improving branch profitability through cost reduction, reduction of risk-weights through rebalancing the lending portfolio, sale of non-core assets, improving recovery efforts, and rationalisation of foreign branches through merger/closure of operations.

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