

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1210
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25th NOVEMBER, 2019/ AGRAHAYANA 4, 1941(SAKA)
Permission for Foreign Tours

1210. SHRI RAMCHARAN BOHRA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the permission of bank management is mandatory for officers of the nationalised banks before undertaking any foreign tour;
- (b) if so, whether bank officers may undertake foreign tour by availing their LTC, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the officers of Bank of India undertook foreign tour by availing their LTC during financial year 2009-10 to 2014-15 and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether TDS was deducted on the amount paid for LTC in the cases of undertaking foreign tours on availing LTC during the said period and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a): As per inputs received from, nationalised banks permission of the bank management is necessary for undertaking foreign tour.

(b): Indian Banks' Association (IBA) had conveyed to its members, including nationalised banks, the views of an IBA committee in relation to Leave Fare Concession (LFC) that bank employees visiting place of domicile or designated place anywhere in India may be reimbursed actual charges for their entire journey within and without India or the cost of fare to their hometown / designated place, by the shortest route, by their entitled class, whichever is lower. On the basis of said communication, different banks issued different administrative guidelines for availing of LFC and reimbursement of expenses in this regard. IBA, *vide* subsequent letter dated 7.4.2014 conveyed to, *inter alia*, nationalised banks that officers shall not be entitled to visit overseas countries/centres as part of Leave Travel Concession (LTC). Government also issued an advisory dated 30.4.2014 to the banks disallowing travel to foreign destinations, including travel via foreign destinations while availing of LTC facility.

(c): As per inputs received from Bank of India, 163 claims were approved during the financial years 2009-10 to 2013-2014, and no such claims were approved during the financial year 2014-2015.

(d): Bank of India has informed that as per Income Tax Rules TDS is not applicable while availing of LTC.
