

# Spoken to RBI guv on PMC Bank: FM

Assures that customers' concerns will be addressed

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
New Delhi, 12 October

Assuring account holders of the troubled Punjab and Maharashtra Co-operative Bank of support, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman (*pictured*) on Saturday said that she has spoken to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) governor, who assured that customers' concerns will be taken on top priority.

The bank was put under "directions" by the RBI last month due to weak financial health, wherein the central bank has capped the deposit withdrawals at ₹25,000. "Spoken to governor @RBI on the #PMCBank matter. He assured me that clients & their concerns will be kept on top priority. I wish to reiterate that @FinMinIndia will ensure that customers concerns are comprehensively addressed. We understand the justified worries of the customers," she said in a tweet. PMC is in bad health allegedly due to its exposure to near-bankrupt realty player HDIL, to which it has loaned over 70 per cent of its ₹9,000 crore in advances.

Earlier this week during a media interaction, she had said, "Finance Ministry may have nothing to do with it (PMC bank matter) directly because RBI is the regulator. But from my side, I've asked the secretaries of my ministry to work with Rural Development Ministry and the Urban Development Ministry to study in detail as to what is happening".

Secretaries from the department of financial services and economic affairs will



## Will discuss the issue with PM, says Maha CM Fadnavis

Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis (*pictured*) has told the depositors of the scam-hit Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative (PMC) Bank that he would discuss the issue of their distress with PM Narendra Modi when he meets the latter on October 13.

A group of Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative (PMC) Bank customers met Fadnavis on Friday after an election rally he addressed here to campaign for BJP candidate and sitting MLA Sanjay Kelkar, who is contesting from Thane City constituency.

Aggrieved depositors put forth their woes to the CM, who gave them a patient hearing, but said he could not give them any assurance as the model code of conduct was in force.

be meeting a deputy governor of RBI soon to look into the "shortcomings" of the functioning of multi-state cooperative banks and see if any amendments can be made to the laws, she had said.

"They will discuss legisla-

Fadnavis said he would be meeting Modi on October 13, and he had already prepared a brief on the PMC Bank issue for the meeting.

"After the elections on October 21, we will follow up on this issue and ensure that the

bank is bailed out at any cost. It will not meet the same fate as the other co-operative banks," he said.

PMC Bank is facing a crisis after an alleged ₹4,500 crore scam came to light last month. The RBI has capped withdrawals from the bank at ₹1,000 and later increased it to ₹25,000 following protests by depositors.

The bank had allegedly lent over 70 per cent of its ₹9,000 crore in loans to near-bankrupt realty player HDIL.

tive steps needed to prevent such incidents from happening and empower the regulator better," she had said.

The government will bring in a legislation to this effect in the winter session of Parliament, she had said.



## Shah: Govt's transparency reducing need for filing RTI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
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The objective of the Modi government is to proactively put out as much information as possible in public domain to reduce the need for Right to Information (RTI) applications, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Saturday.

The success of a government does not lie in the high number of RTI applications, Shah said while addressing the 14th annual convention of the Central Information Commission (CIC) here.

"Low number of RTI applications in spite of convenient avenues to file them means the government's work is satisfactory. Large number of RTI applications does not represent the government's success.

Shah also emphasised the need to make people aware of their responsibilities along with their rights.

"I believe that along with RTI, we should also inculcate a sense of responsibility in the people. Do not use RTI without any reason, use it for transparency, avoid using it for personal reasons unless injustice is happening. In case of injustice, do use it. We should also promote right to responsibility," he said.

The dashboard system introduced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has ensured that everyone gets information about ongoing schemes online without filing RTI applications, Shah said.

"Through the use of dashboard, we began a new transparent era. One can go to the dashboard and see how many toilets have been built. Using the dashboard, one can check when one will get electricity connection under the Saubhagya Yojna. Any illiterate woman can click the dashboard and get to know when she will get a cooking gas cylinder," he said.

# 'Haryana could be no. 1 in quality school education in a year'

Employment and jobs remain concerns among voters in Haryana, even as the state has taken some strides forward in the education sector. The state's Education and Tourism Minister **RAM BILAS SHARMA**, who heads seven departments of the government, tells Nitin Kumar why he feels the Bharatiya Janata Party government should be elected back to power. Edited excerpts:

**What are the state government's biggest achievements in the past five years?** Developing the 600-year-old Madhogarh fort as a world-class tourist spot is one of our biggest achievements. We have inaugurated the Indian Model Township (IMT) in Khudana village. I have inaugurated the Satnali *anaj mandi* (wholesale market for grains) in 2014, when I was in charge of the food and supply department. These steps will boost employment in one of the most backward belts of the state. This will not only benefit Mahendragarh, but also the neighboring districts.

**Haryana is ranked third in the School Education Quality Index 2019 rankings compiled by the NITI Aayog. What is your next target?**

We are eyeing the top spot in one year. Once we form the government, we will prepare an action plan. In fact, Haryana has been ranked number 1 in moral education after we had introduced the *Bhagavad Gita* as a part of the school curriculum across the state.

**The IMT in Khudana was one of your dream projects, but it hasn't taken off in five years.**

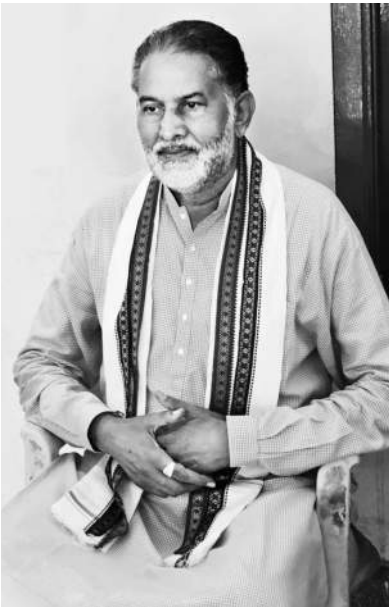


PHOTO: NITIN KUMAR



ASSEMBLY POLL  
HARYANA

The IMT we are developing in Khudana is one of the biggest. The work is in progress and we are trying to complete it on a war footing. Road construction has started.

There were some pending legal issues because of which land acquisition was stalled. This has now been sorted, and the work will be completed after the elections.

With the Haryana State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation's e-tendering process, we have sent a message to the industrial sector that we are developing an IMT in

## BJP protests against killing of workers in Bengal

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
Kolkata, 12 October

The West Bengal Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) organised a sit-in on Saturday to protest against the alleged killing of its workers in the state in recent times.

The party claimed eight of its workers were killed in Bengal in the last one week, excluding the triple murder in the Murshidabad district.

School teacher Bandhu Prakash Pal who was killed in his house at Jiaganj in Murshidabad is claimed to be a BJP-RSS supporter. The West Bengal police had,

however, said the brutal killing of the school teacher, his wife and minor son in was a result of personal enmity and bore no political connotation.

"Everyday one or the other BJP worker is being killed in Bengal. The TMC government has lost all connect with the masses and is now trying to rule by using terror tactics. But we won't allow this to happen. We will fight till this government is ousted from power," BJP West Bengal president Dilip Ghosh told reporters.

The BJP has sought time from Union Home Minister Amit Shah and

Khudana. It is located in prime destination of this hilly area at the cheapest rates.

**World College of Medical Science and Research in Girawad (Jhajjar) has been embroiled in several controversies. The students are accusing the government of not taking action against the college administration. When will this matter be resolved?**

This is a very serious matter, as the role of teacher is very important in society. After the elections, we will discuss the matter with the chief minister. The matter will be taken up on a priority basis.

**Lack of teachers and facilities is one of the main causes of dissent among people across Haryana, as in the case of Gothda Tappa Dahina in Rewari, where girls have been saying that merely upgrading the school is not enough. The government should post an adequate number of teachers as well.**

We recruited approximately 40,000 teachers in the past five years. There were 22,000 guest teachers in the state, who were continuously protesting and demanding permanent jobs, but the previous governments did not pay heed to their demand. After coming to power we regularised them. Very soon, we will provide all the facilities to every school in the state.

**In 2014, the BJP said if it won the elections, each school in the state will have a yoga teacher. Five years on, the promise has remained unfulfilled.** We have recruited many yoga teachers, but we didn't find enough talented candidates. The recruitment will continue.

## Income tax dept conducts searches in Tamil Nadu, Goa

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
New Delhi, 12 October

The income tax department has conducted search operations in Tamil Nadu and Goa to crack down on evaders.

According to an official statement issued on Saturday, search action on October 11 in the case of a business group based in Namakkal, Tamil Nadu was undertaken.

The group is mainly into

running of educational institutions, and coaching institutes for competitive exams like NEET, etc.

The search operation covered 17 premises, including residential properties of the group's promoters. The premises are located in Namakkal, Perundurai, Karur and Chennai in Tamil Nadu, it said.

Besides, it said, the department carried out search operation on October 10 covering six

premises of two groups involved in the sale-purchase of hotel resort in Goa.

The search resulted in seizure of undisclosed assets of ₹4.39 crore comprising undisclosed cash of ₹2.55 crore and jewellery/valuables worth ₹1.84 crore, the statement added.

The groups made a disclosure of a total amount of ₹124.41 crore, representing undisclosed income and also committed to pay taxes immediately. With

regard to Tamil Nadu case, it said, significant amount of cash was found in a safe inside an auditorium in a school premise.

Unaccounted cash of about ₹30 crore has been found and seized, the statement added.

The unaccounted receipts are deployed for acquiring immovable properties as personal investments, which are then leased for long-term to the trust for expanding to other towns.