

to contain non-plan revenue expenditure and increase revenue receipts. With a view to achieve fiscal consolidation, the Budget for 2001-02 emphasises expenditure management through the process of bringing about structural changes in the composition of Central Government expenditure, economy in non-plan revenue expenditure while improving the quality of expenditure. To this end the Budget contains a number of initiatives which among others include restricting fresh recruitment to one per cent of total civilian staff strength, revision in user charges for services provided by the government and its agencies keeping in view the increased cost of these services etc. Further, with a view to reduce interest burden, most administered interest rates were reduced by 1.5 per cent as of March 1, 2001. Besides, the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Bill, 2000 was introduced in Parliament in December 2000. This Bill includes provisions relating to ceilings on debt, deficit and borrowing.

Loan Scheme for the poor

† 240. SHRIBACHANIUSKHRAJ: WiU the Minister of FTNANCEbe pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal to formulate a small loan scheme for poor people;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any action so far in this regard; and

(c) if so, the comprehensive details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIBALAS AHEB VIKHE PATH.): (a) and (b) Small loans to poor people are being provided by banks under Government sponsored credit linked Schemes such as Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), Swama Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), Swamajay ami Gramk Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) and Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers (SLRS). Small loans to poor people are also being provided through Self Help Groups as micro-credit by Banks.

(c) Does not arise.

Loans to Cinema Industry

241, SHWS.S.ai\NDRAN: VriUttieMinisteTof FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the stringent conditions imposed by

† Original notice of the question was received to Hindi.

the banks for sanctioning loans to the workers of cinema industry for production of films/TV serials etc.

(b) whether Government would relax the conditions to reach the benefit to the target group; and

(c) whether Government would launch a special scheme for providing loan to make TV serials on national integration and communal harmony?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued broad guidelines to the commercial banks on 14th May, 2001 regarding bank finance for production of films. RBI guidelines envisage financing film producers with a good track record and also green field projects. It was also suggested in the guidelines that banks may avail services of specialized/experts of industry in project evaluation. Following the issuance of RBI guidelines, SBI and other nationalized banks excluding Corporation Bank, Syndicate Bank, United Bank of India and Vijaya Bank have approved policy on film financing. The remaining banks are still in the process of familiarizing with the intricacies involved in financing this comparatively new Area. As on 30th September, 2001 banks have financed 167 commercial films involving an amount of Rs. 174.78 crore and 37 documentaries/TV Serials involving an amount of Rs. 28.56 crore. There is no special scheme, at present, for providing loan to make TV Serial on National Integration and Communal Harmony.

Fall in Industrial Growth Rate

242. SHRI CO. POULOSE:

DR. ALLADIP. RAJKUMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Industrial growth rate recorded a fall in the first six months of the current financial year,

(b) if so, the extent of slide as compared to the growth rate of the corresponding months of the previous year,

(c) the reasons for the same; and

(d) the steps taken to arrest the fall in growth rate?