

(g) The scheme of examination is different for different categories of posts. Also, the number of vacancies for various categories of posts is different. The merit list for various categories of posts is drawn on all India merit basis, based on aggregate marks in the written examination as well as interview, wherever applicable and the allocation of candidates in the various services depends upon their merit, preference and the vacancy pertaining to the services.

Revision of GDP growth rate

559. SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to revise GDP growth target downward from the earlier stipulated growth rate of 6.5% per annum; and

(b) the latest trends of GDP growth since the first year of Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal with the Planning Commission to scale down the planned growth rate of 6.5% per year as set out in the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997—2002).

(b) As per the Central Statistical Organisation, the growth in Gross Domestic Product since the first year of the Ninth Plan (1997—2002) has been:

Year	Rate of Growth of GDP(%)
1997-98	4.8
1998-99	6.6
1999-2000	6.4
2000-2001	5.2

Task Force on employment opportunities

560. SHRI RAMA SHANKERKAUSHBC:

SHRI CM. IBRAHIM:

DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had constituted any task force for creation of employment opportunities in the country and whether the said task force has submitted any report;

(b) if so, the suggestions made in the report;

(c) whether it is a fact that after implementation of this report, unemployment would increase to such an extent that it would become difficult for the people to survive and therefore, a demand has been made to reject this report; and

(d) if so, Government's decision on rejection or implementation of this report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir. Government had constituted a Task Force on Employment Opportunities under the Chairmanship of Shri Montek Singh Ahluwalia, member, Planning Commission, Task Force has submitted its report to the Deputy Chairman Planning Commission on 2nd July 2001.

(b) Summary of Recommendations of the Report of Task Force on Employment Opportunities is Annexure. The full Report of the Task Force has been placed in Parliament Library (Call No. 331.1 R/PI and Class No. 331. 1R). [See Appendix 194 Annexure No. 7]

(c) and (d) The Report has not yet been examined by Planning Commission. A Special Group on Targeting 10 Million Employment Opportunities per year over the 10th Plan Period has been constituted by Planning Commission under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.P. Gupta, Members, Planning Commission, whose terms of reference include this work also.

Speedy development of backward regions

561. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any initiatives to ensure speedy development of the identified backward regions in the country by providing additional resources to cover the backlog of development during the current plan period; and

(b) if so, the details of the regions identified for the purpose and the funds allocated during the plan period along with the physical achievements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Planning and development of an area and allocation of funds for the purpose are primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. Hence, Planning Commission has not