

(c) whether it is also a fact that under this agreement, the interests of common users have been ignored; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA):  
(a) and (b) National Highways Authority of India entered into an agreement with the Concessionaire for conversion of Delhi-Gurgaon section of NH 8 into Access Controlled 8/6 lane highway from km. 14.30 to km. 42.00 on BOT (Toll) basis. The project was approved by the Public Investment Board (PIB) and Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs (CCEA) on December 12, 2000. The investment decision on this project was taken by the Authority as per the delegated powers by the CCEA.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Monetary expansion**

‡3437. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:  
SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that till 20 November, 2009 an amount of Rupees 8,06,000 crore had come in Monetary expansion system;

(b) if not, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in comparison to the previous year, it was 18.4 per cent more, whereas it had to be upto 17 per cent according to Government target; and

(d) if not, the details thereof and the negative impact seen on the country as a result of this financial situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA):  
(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. In 2009-10 till November 20, 2009, monetary expansion as measured by year on year growth in money supply (M3) was placed at Rs. 8,06,414 crore, which amounted to 18.4 per cent.

Year-on-year growth in M3 moderated to 16.8 per cent by end March, 2010, which was close to Reserve Bank of India's revised indicative projection of 16.5 per cent. Such a trajectory of monetary expansion was consistent with the policy stance of meeting the credit demands of productive sectors.

#### **Assessment of inflation**

‡3438. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:  
SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Wholesale Price Index (WPI), and Consumer Price Index

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‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(CPI) for industrial workers and CPI for rural workers are used for taking decisions during the assessment of inflation in the country;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that different norms have been fixed for the evaluation of all the above price indices;

(c) if so, the norms fixed for evaluation of each price index separately; and

(d) the average annual rate evaluated in the above price indices during 2009-10?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA):

(a) There are five main series of prices indices compiled at the national level. Out of these, wholesale price index has an economy wide coverage. Since November 14, 2009, it is released by DIPP on monthly basis for all 435 commodities; weekly reporting is being done only for primary commodities and fuel group. Of the other four indices *viz.* Consumer Price Index for Industrial Works (CPI-IW), Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labourers (CPI-AL), Consumer Price Index for Rural Labourers (CPI-RL) and Consumer Price Index for Urban Non-Manual Employees (CPI-UNME), CPI-UNME has been discontinued since April, 2008. These are main indicators of the average price movement over time of a fixed basket of goods and services, and assessment of inflation in the country.

(b) and (c) The Indian Government has taken WPI as an indicator of the rate of inflation in the economy. The CPI-IW purports to measure the temporal change in the retail prices of fixed basket of goods and services being consumed by the target group *i.e.* an average working class family and thus, is an important indicator of the retail price situation in the country. It is mainly used for the determination of dearness allowances being paid to Central/State Government employees as also to the workers in the industrial sectors besides fixation and revision of minimum wages in scheduled employments. The CPI-AL and CPI-RL are used for fixation and revision of minimum for agriculture labour. The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices utilizes these indices for fixation/revision of support prices of Kharif and Rabi crops whereas the Ministry of Human Resource Development has evinced keen interest in CPI-RL for working out cost inflation in the cooking cost norms under the Mid Day Meal Scheme. These indices are also helpful in measuring the inflationary trend in the country.

(d) The average annual inflation rates of WPI, CPI-AL and CPI-RL for 2009-10 are 3.8% (provisional), 13.9% and 13.8% respectively. For CPI-IW, average inflation of April-February, 2009-10 is 11.9%.

#### Performance of NPS

3439. SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the performance of New Pension Scheme (NPS) for the informal sector so far;