

	Weight %	Feb. -09	Mar. -09	Apr. -09	May -09	June -09	July -09	Aug. -09	Sep. -09	Oct. -09	Nov. -09	Dec. -09	Jan. -10	Feb. -10
CPI-IW (All)	100.0	9.6	8.0	8.7	8.6	9.3	11.9	11.7	11.6	11.5	13.5	15.0	16.2	14.9
CPI-IW (Food)	46.2	13.0	10.6	10.4	11.7	12.2	14.7	13.7	13.5	13.8	17.6	21.3	19.2	17.3

(c) The year-on-year inflation of CPI-IW remained high during July, 2009 to February, 2010. This high-level inflation in CPI-IW is mainly due to double-digit inflation in food group, which has a high weight of food group (46.2%) in the commodity basket of CPI-IW.

(d) The Government has taken several measures to control inflation, which include:—

- (i) Reducing import duties of zero — for rice, wheat, pulses, edible oils (crude) and sugar.
- (ii) Reducing import duties on refined and hydrogenated oils and vegetable oils.
- (iii) Allowed import of raw sugar at zero duty under open general licence (OGL). This has since been extended upto 31.12.10.
- (iv) Levy obligation removed in respect of all imported raw sugar and white/refined sugar.
- (v) Banned export of non-basmati rice, edible oils and pulses (except kabuli chana).
- (vi) Imposed stock limit orders in the case of paddy, rice, pulses, sugar, edible oils and edible oilseeds.

In addition, a Crore Group of Chief Ministers and concerned Central Ministers has been constituted on 15th March, 2010 to discuss issues related to prices of essential commodities with Ministry of Agriculture as nodal agency.

#### **Monetary measures taken by RBI:**

The Reserve Bank of India has announced in its Annual Policy Statement for 2010-11 to increase the Repo Rate by 25 basis points from 5.00 per cent to 5.25 per cent and the Reverse Repo rate by 25 basis points from 3.50 per cent to 3.75 per cent with immediate effect. It has been decided to increase the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) by 25 basis points from 5.75 per cent to 6.00 per cent *w.e.f.* fortnight beginning April 24, 2010.

#### **Taxes levied in the country**

†3418. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the types of taxes Government collects from its citizens and the percentage it constitutes to its income;

(b) the extent in percentage to which it is more than the taxes collected in developed countries like America, Canada, countries of Europe etc.

(c) whether the taxes collected from the tax-payers of the country by the Central Government and the State Governments constitute more than sixty per cent of their total income, whereas in developed countries tax-payers pay only upto 20 per cent of their total income as tax;

(d) if so, whether Government would implement American tax system to increase the number of income taxpayers and provide relief to people; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) The Central Government levies and collects three types of indirect taxes *viz.*, customs duties on goods imported into or exported out of India; central excise duty on goods produced or manufactured in India and service tax on taxable services. In addition, certain cesses and surcharges are also levied. Further, the Central Government collects Income Tax, Wealth Tax and Securities Transaction Tax as direct taxes. According to the Economic Survey, the ratio of total tax revenues of the Government of India to the GDP for the year 2008-09 was 10.9%. The total tax revenue as a percentage of Gross Domestic Products (GDP) with respect to Canada and USA was 33.3% and 28.3% respectively as per “2009 Index of Economic Freedom, Heritage Foundation, accessed as on May 2, 2009” and for countries of EU it was 39.8% as reported by “eurostat news release dated 22-6-2009”.

(c) to (e) No, Sir.

#### **Urban Co-operative Banks**

3419. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Urban Co-operative Banks (UCB) operating in the country, State and Union Territory-wise, with their branches, share capital, owned funds, deposits, advances and working capital, as on 31 March, 2010;

(b) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is preoccupied with the concerns of the big private banks and turning a blind eye towards the UCBs and has only made a vision document for UCBs;

(c) whether Government proposes to give scheduled bank status to eligible UCBs;

(d) if so, by when and the details of banks eligible therefor, State-wise; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) The State-wise distribution of branches, deposits and advances of Urban Cooperative