

Further, the Government of India (GoI) constituted a Task Force in 2004 under the chairmanship of Prof. A. Vaidyanathan for suggesting an implementable plan for the revival of cooperative credit institutions. Based on the recommendations of the Vaidyanathan Task Force-I Report, the Government in January, 2006 formulated a revival package for the Short Term Co-operative Credit Structure (STCCS). The package envisaged financial assistance for wiping out the accumulated losses as on 31 March, 2004, subject to legal and institutional reforms. The total size of the Package is Rs.13,597 crores to be shared by GoI, State Governments and the Cooperative Credit Structure (CCS). The package also envisaged training and capacity building, introduction of common and standard accounting and monitoring systems and computerization in the STCCS.

So far, an amount of Rs.9016.59 crore has been released by Government of India to NABARD, the implementing agency for this package.

#### **Change in stand of States on GST structure**

2208. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some of the States which had earlier agreed on the proposed Goods and Service Tax (GST) structure have done a turnaround now;
- (b) if so, reasons therefor; and
- (c) by when the proposed dual GST structure is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM):  
(a) and (b) Some of the States seem to have changed their positions from the consensus earlier reached in the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers and released through the First Discussion Paper on Goods and Services Tax (GST).

(c) The introduction of proposed dual GST requires certain amendments in the Constitution. A draft of the Constitutional Amendment Bill was prepared and sent to the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers (EC) for their comments. Following their suggestions, the draft Constitutional Amendment Bill has been revised and sent to the EC for obtaining the views of the States. The EC is yet to revert back with a concrete and clear view in this regard. Since developing consensus on such issues generally takes time, it is not possible to indicate any timeframe by which the GST will be introduced.