

1	2	3	4	5
Recovery (%)	80.84	77.85	80.09	83.01
Net NPAs (%)	3.36	1.81	1.80	1.72
No. of RRBs in Profit	82	80	79	76
Amount of Profit	1083	1371	1890	1842
No. of RRBs in Loss	8	6	3	6
Amount of Loss	56	36	6	57
Accumulated Loss	2624	2300	1775	1529

Source -NABARD * Data provisional and unaudited.

Respite from high inflation

1595. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there appears to be no respite from high inflation in the near future; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

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

(a) As per First Quarter Review 2011-12 by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released in July, 2011, inflation continues to be a concern. Headline Wholesale Price Index (WPI) year-on-year inflation was 9.4 per cent in June 2011 as compared to 9.06 per cent in May 2011 and 9.7 per cent in April, 2011. Current softening in global commodity prices may, provide some respite in the short-run. Non-food manufactured products inflation remains significantly higher than the long-term average of about 4 per cent. As per the RBI assessment, price pressures are expected to persist through July-September, 2011 and then moderate in the later part of 2011-12.

(b) Measures taken to contain prices of essential commodities include; import prices reduced to zero on rice, wheat, pulses, edible oils (crude) and onion, ban on export of non-basmati rice, edible oils (except coconut oil and forest based oil) and pulses (except Kabuli chana and

organic pulses upto a maximum of 10000 tonnes per year), futures trading suspended in rice, urad and tur by the Forward Market Commission, stock limit orders extended in the case of pulses, paddy and rice up to 30 September, 2011. duty under Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) for Skimmed Milk Powder (SMP) reduced from 15% to 5% for import upto an aggregate of 10000 metric tonnes in a financial year, import of 30000 tonnes of Milk Powder and 15000 tonnes of Milk Fat at zero duty allowed to National Daily Development Board (NDDB) during 2010-11 under TRQ, reduction in custom duty on crude oil and import duty on petrol and diesel.

As part of the monetary policy review stance, the RBI has taken suitable steps with 11 consecutive increases in policy rates and related measures to moderate demand to levels consistent with the capacity of the economy to maintain its growth without provoking price rise. As per the most recent announcement of the RBI on 26 July, 2011, the repo rate and reverse repo rate have been revised to 8.0 per cent and 7.0 per cent respectively.

Increasing upper deposit limit in PPF accounts

1596. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to do away with the date limit for grant of interest to PPF account holders and pay interest on regular basis;

(b) whether Government proposes to increase the upper limit of deposit under PPF to bring it at par with other saving instruments; and

(c) if so, by when and, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA):
(a) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(b) and (c) Committee headed by Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India, on comprehensive review of NSSF, has, inter-alia, recommended increasing the deposit limit of PPF from existing Rs. 70,000 to Rs. 1,00,000 per annum. Recommendations of the committee have been referred to State Governments and concerned Ministries/Departments of Central Government for their comments, before taking any decision on the recommendations of the Committee.

Swaabhimaan Scheme for small farmers in Bihar

1597. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: