

1	2	3	4	5
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	16.39	10.37	NA
30.	Chandigarh	12.18	15.85	16.54
31.	Delhi	16.78	18.10	18.80
32.	Pondicherry	8.64	12.88	13.97
	ALL-INDIA GDP (2004-05 BASE):	15.29	16.11	19.14

Source: For Sl.No. 1-32 — Directorate of Economics and Statistics of respective State Governments, and for All-India — Central Statistics Office.

Proposal for lowering of STT

50. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to lower the Securities Transaction Tax (STT) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether collection of STT has decreased during April-October period of current fiscal;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the extent to which such decrease in STT will be recovered by the reduction of STT rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Yes.

(d) The details of collection of Securities Transaction Tax (STT) during the period April to October of the current fiscal and of the last fiscal year are as under:—

Collection of STT (Rs. in crores)

2010-11 (April-October)	2011-12 (April-October)	% increase/decrease
3602.43	2958.09	(-) 17.89%

The STT collection is a function of the price of the security as well as the volume of its trade.

(e) Does not arise in view of the reasons stated above.

Pension scheme for employees of Gramin Banks

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

(a) whether Government is considering to extend pension scheme to all officers and employees of Gramin Banks since all the Bank Officers including Nationalised Bank officers and employees are already getting pension;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry in consultation of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has already finalised the schemes; and

(d) if so, by when it would be implemented and whether Government would like to consult all the trade unions before finalising the pension scheme of Gramin Banks?

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

(a) to (d) Regional Rural Bank (RRB) employees and officers' superannuation benefits are governed by the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. No decision has been taken on granting pension to RRB employees at par with that of Nationalized Banks. The matter is also *sub-judice* in different High Courts.

Consultation with international organisation for budget formulation exercise

52. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government held consultations with international organisations like World Health Organisation (WHO) FAO and other foreign agencies to secure their inputs and suggestions for the budget formulation exercise currently underway;

(b) when such consultations were held with foreign agencies to change the taxation and excise systems on diversified consumer products;

(c) whether Government has come to an agreement to hand over a specified amount of taxes each year to WHO directly; and

(d) the details of such agreement with foreign agencies like WHO?

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

(a) Union Government holds pre-budget discussions with select groups of stakeholders like