

While RBI has taken measures to contain overall inflation, supply side measures as well as sector/commodity specific interventions were initiated by the Government to address the concerns on food inflation. Apart from several fiscal and administrative measures taken earlier, the Government of India announced the following measures in the Union Budget 2012-13.

- **National Mission for Protein Supplement:** To improve productivity in the dairy sector, a Rs.2,242 crore project is being launched with World Bank assistance. To broaden the scope of production of fish to coastal aquaculture, apart from fresh water aquaculture, the outlay in 2012-13 is being stepped up to Rs. 500 crore. Suitable allocations are also being made for poultry, piggery and goat rearing.
- **Provision to add storage capacity for food grains:** 5 million tonnes capacity is proposed to be added during 2012-13.
- The allocations for the scheme Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI) has been increased from Rs. 400 crore in 2011-12 to Rs. 1000 crore in 2012-13 as the scheme has resulted in additional paddy production of seven million tonnes in Kharif 2011.
- A 18 per cent higher budgetary allocation for agriculture, besides an increase in targeted credit for agriculture credit by Rs. 100,000 crore should help from the supply side.

Notices issued by income tax department

1278. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of demands notices have been issued by Income Tax Department to tax payers, for mere Rs. 20/- only.

(b) if so, whether same may be avoided to save Government spending on sending these notices with expenses of more than Rs. 20/- to collect this money; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) No Sir. However, the Centralized Processing Center

(CPC) of the Income Tax Department had issued communications regarding arrear demand to tax-payers under the provisions of Section 245 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 as such a communication is required before adjusting any refund arising to a tax-payer. This fact had also been clarified through a Press Note issued on 5th January, 2012 by the Ministry.

Comments of RBI for manipulated figures of NPA

1279. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware about the comments of RBI about their fact findings for manipulated figures of non-performing assets by various banks;
- (b) whether SEBI has conducted any investigation in this regard;
- (c) if so, by when this investigation report will be completed; and
- (d) if not, whether SEBI is going to conduct any investigation, if so, the time-frame thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the regulator for banks in India, has not reported any specific case to the Government regarding manipulated figures of non-performing assets of banks.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Effect of inflation on growth rate of economy

1280. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details inflation rate during the last one year along with its effect on the growth of the economy;
- (b) the effect of inflation on demand and prices in the market;
- (c) whether retail prices of food items are increasing at a higher rate than inflation rate; and
- (d) the efforts made by Government to check price rise?