

**Fiscal deficit target**

183. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government will be able to contain the fiscal deficit within the target;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the estimates and target for reducing fiscal deficit will have to be revised by Government; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

**Reduction in interest rate**

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

- (a) whether Government is taking any measure to reduce interest rates so as to promote investment and to speed up economic activities; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Interest rate on advances are deregulated and are decided by Scheduled Commercial Banks, based on their commercial judgment and as per Reserve Bank of India guidelines on Base rate system since 1 July, 2010. At the review meeting taken by Finance Minister at New Delhi on 3rd July, 2013, Public Sector Banks were requested to review their respective Base rates with a view to promote investment and to push up economic activities.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi