

RAJYA SABHA

Tuesday, the 30th April, 2013/10th Vaisakha, 1935 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Q.No. 481 ...(*Interruptions*)... आप लोग बैठ जाइए, प्लीज़। ...(*व्यवधान*)... Please go back to your seats ...(*Interruptions*)...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव : सर, मैंने एक नोटिस दिया है। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

श्री सभापति : आप लोग बैठ जाइए, प्लीज़। ...(*व्यवधान*)... एक मिनट, आप लोग अपनी जगह पर चले जाइए। ...(*व्यवधान*)... प्लीज़ ...(*व्यवधान*)... आप लोग यह क्या कर रहे हैं? ...(*व्यवधान*)... आप लोग अपनी जगह पर वापस जाइए। ...(*व्यवधान*)... नहीं, आप लोग यह मत कीजिए। ...(*व्यवधान*)... Please don't do this ...(*Interruptions*)... The House is adjourned till 1200 hours.

The House then adjourned at two minutes
past eleven of the clock.

The House reassembled at 12.00 Noon.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Growth estimates for the current year

*481. SHRI D. P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that growth estimates for this fiscal will be down as compared to the previous financial year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of steps Government will take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) As per the Economic Survey 2012-13, the growth rate of Gross Domestic Product (at factor cost at constant 2004-05 prices) is expected to be in the range of 6.1 to 6.7 per cent in 2013-14, *vis-a-vis* a growth rate of 5.0 per cent estimated for 2012-13. The growth for the fiscal 2013-14 is projected to be higher than that for 2012-13 in view

of the reform measures undertaken in recent months such as setting up of the Cabinet Committee on Investment (CCI) to fast track large investment projects; strengthening of financial sector including banking; permitting FDI in areas including multi-brand retail, power exchanges and civil aviation; reduction of policy rates by the Reserve Bank of India, etc. The growth projection assumes a normal monsoon, further moderation in inflation, global economic recovery, etc.

Tiger population in forests

*482. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sundarbans of West Bengal, Sariska of Rajasthan, Simlipal of Odisha forests have no tiger population at all, although the official record, shows a number of tigers in these forests;

(b) whether it is also a fact that during the last three years no body has seen any tiger in these forests; and

(c) the present process of tiger enumeration and when it was last done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Phase-IV yearly monitoring protocol using camera traps has been launched in all tiger reserves including Sundarbans, Simlipal and Sariska which have camera trapped tigers in these reserves. Further, the latest country level assessment (2010) of tigers, co-predators and prey using the refined methodology, in collaboration with the Wildlife Institute of India, has also provided the details of tiger population in different landscapes. The said details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The tiger population is estimated once every four years with a refined methodology of double sampling using camera traps in a 'mark-recapture' statistical framework at the landscape level. The last such country level assessment was done in the year 2010.