

number of measures aimed at reviving economic growth and reducing fiscal and current account deficit. The major reform measures taken include the setting up of the Cabinet Committee on Investments (CCI) to fast track large investment projects; permitting FDI in areas such as multi brand retail, power exchange and aviation; deregulation of diesel prices and capping of subsidized LPG cylinders; laying the fiscal consolidation roadmap; introducing the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme; liberalization measures to increase the inflow of capital; increasing the import duty on Gold and measures to encourage household sector to save in financial instruments other than gold. The Government has followed a tight monetary policy to keep inflation under check. Besides measures were taken to increase the supply of food-grains and other essential commodities by fiscal and administrative measures.

As a result of these measures WPI inflation in March 2013 fell to 5.96 per cent. Trade deficit has also fallen in Q4 of 2012-13. The cooling of petroleum prices and fall in gold imports, could also reduce the trade deficit. With re-prioritization of expenditure towards development side and curtailing the growth in non-developmental expenditure, the total expenditure is estimated to be brought down to 14.6 per cent of GDP in BE 2013-14.

**Credit at lower interest rate for manufacturing sector**

3752. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council (NMCC) has recommended lowering the interest rates to attract more investments in manufacturing sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken any steps in this direction;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (e) Yes. NMCC had written to the Government and Reserve Bank of India for taking measures for increasing the growth of manufacturing sector, which inter-alia includes the lowering of interest rate.

Interest rates on loan and advances have been de-regulated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) with effect from 01.07.2010 and linked to the Base Rate. Banks accordingly determine their actual lending rates on loans and advances with reference to their Base Rate and by including such other customer specific changes as considered appropriate.

#### **Stake sale in OIL**

3753. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government had decided to sale 10 per cent stake in Oil India Ltd. (OIL);
- (b) if so, the details of the action and decision taken thereon;
- (c) whether Government has taken steps to fix the base price at 5-5 per cent discount to the current market price; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) The Government disinvested 10 per cent paid-up equity capital in Oil India Ltd. (OIL) out of Government shareholding of 78.43% through Offer for Sale Mechanism of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). The Floor Price was fixed at Rs. 510 per share, which works out to be a discount of 5.41% over the closing price of Rs.539.20 on 31st January, 2013 at Bombay Stock Exchange. The OFS was completed on 1st February, 2013 and realized Rs. 3141.51 crore at an average of Rs. 522.60 per share i.e. an effective discount of 3.08% over the closing price of 31st January, 2013.

#### **Obtaining of information on suspicious transaction by FIU**

3754. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of pieces of domestic information about suspicious transactions that have been obtained by Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) so far;
- (b) how many of them are under investigation;
- (c) whether it is a fact that more than Rs. 430 crore of unaccounted funds