

- (v) Equity infusion in various Metro projects;
- (vi) Investment in Bhartiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited and Uranium Corporation of India Ltd.
- (vii) Investment in Indian Railways towards capital expenditure.

Loans granted for borewells

†2811. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers granted loans by Co-operative, Commercial and rural banks for setting up of borewells especially in the backward and rural areas especially in Bihar during last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether Government has received any complaints about irregularities in approval of loans during this period; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) Specific data on loans to farmers for installation of borewells extended by Commercial Banks, Cooperatives and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) are not maintained by Reserve Bank of India (RBI)/National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD). However, NABARD has informed that it provides long term refinance to banks against their lendings to farmers for Minor Irrigation which also includes installation of borewells. The amount of refinance provided by NABARD to Commercial Banks, Cooperatives and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) for Minor Irrigation in all States including Bihar, during each of the last three years and the current year is as under :

(₹ in crore)						
Year	Commercial Banks	SCARDBs	RRBs	StCBs	PUCBs/ADFCs	Total
2011-12	237.32	220.69	73.81	128.51	0.18	660.51
2012-13	301.18	92.81	153.13	190.14	2.00	739.26
2013-14	202.74	57.59	87.13	168.92	1.50	517.88
2014-15 (as on 30.06.2014)	7.18	0.00	14.38	34.38	0.00	55.94
TOTAL	748.12	371.10	328.45	521.95	3.68	1973.59

Source: NABARD

NABARD has further informed that the “Bihar Ground Water Irrigation Scheme” (BIGWIS) was implemented in Bihar during 2009-10 to 2012-13 under which construction of two types of irrigation structures, viz. shallow tubewells and dugwells with various capacity of pumpsets were supported. The number of beneficiaries assisted under BIGWIS is given below :

Agency	As on 31 March 2011	During 2011-12	During 2012-13	Total
Regional Rural Banks	14,309	9,882	12,613	36,804
Commercial Banks	18,886	6,707	20,881	46,474
TOTAL	33,195	16,589	33,494	83,278

Source : NABARD

(b) and (c) Specific complaints regarding irregularities in sanction of the said loans have not come to the notice, however, complaints/grievances related to sanction of loans etc., as and when received, are sent to appropriate authorities for remedial action.

Provision of skill development

2812. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether this Government will continue the initiatives of its predecessor in the task of providing skill development for 500 million people by 2022;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government would make any changes in the sector in order to ensure that more young people are able to access skill development process in the coming years and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) and (b) As informed by National Skill Development Agency (NSDA), there has been no review yet of the target of providing skill development for 500 million people by 2022.

(c) A national multi-skill programme called Skill India is proposed to be launched as announced in Budget speech 2014-15 on 10th July 2014. It would skill the youth with an emphasis on employability and entrepreneur skills. It will also provide training and support for traditional professions like welders, carpenters, cobblers, masons, blacksmiths, weavers etc. Convergence of various schemes to attain this objective is also proposed.