

(b) the number of account holders having debt of more than rupees one crore, whose loan was written off?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) The total amount written off by Public Sector Banks (PSBs) during the last five years stands at ₹ 1,06,170 crore. The RBI data reporting system does not collate data on the number of account holder having more than rupees one crore, whose loan were written off.

#### **Reduction in allocation for social development sector**

3397. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for tax mobilisation by Government going well below target in spite of its claim that economy is looking up;

(b) the reasons for increase in total amount of bad debts of banks in spite of GDP increasing continuously; and

(c) whether Government considers cutting down allocations for social development sector as a solution for this malaise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) Cumulative collections upto the end of November, 2014 in the current financial year is ₹329413 crore in respect of direct taxes and ₹328662 crore in the indirect taxes representing a growth of 5.67% and 7.1%, respectively compared to same period of last financial year. At this stage, it may not be feasible to estimate the actual revenue for the current financial year. The actual tax mobilization through direct and indirect taxes in current financial year would depend on factors such as growth in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and performance of the economy in the remaining part of the current fiscal.

(b) Main reasons for increase in NPAs of banks, *inter-alia*, are sluggishness in the domestic growth during the recent past, slowdown in recovery in the global economy and continuing uncertainty in the global markets. There are five sub-sectors: infrastructure (which includes power generation, telecommunications, roads, ports, airports, railways [other than Indian Railways] and other infrastructure), iron and steel, textiles, mining (including coal) and aviation services which contribute significantly to the level of stressed advances.

(c) The Government has issued instructions on austerity measures on 29.10.2014 wherein a mandatory 10% cut has been imposed on Non-Plan expenditure excluding interest payment, repayment of debt, defence capital, salaries, pension and Finance Commission grants to States.

#### **Rise in subsidies**

3398. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether one of the mega factors that has resulted in an increase in Centre's fiscal deficit, is the build-up in subsidies;

(b) if so, the increase in total subsidies, as percent of GDP, since 2007-08, year-wise; and

(c) the details of measures taken by Government to keep the expenditure on subsidies under control?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) The information is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The Government supports merit subsidies and proposes to better target them to the poor and vulnerable sections of the population. Government has deregulated the petrol and diesel prices, and has also approved the Modified Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme for cooking gas (MDBTL), where all households whether they possess aadhaar card or not will be eligible for getting LPG subsidy under the scheme. The Government has also constituted Expenditure Reform Commission (ERC) to look into various aspects of expenditure reforms, including subsidy reforms. This will not only enable the Government to better target the subsidies, but also improve the allocative and operational efficiency of Government expenditure.