

of interest rate charged on agricultural loan, minor, small and medium enterprises loan to the nationalised and other co-operative banks;

(b) whether the interest can be more than the principal loan taken by the above category persons;

(c) the details of norm, procedure or guideline prescribed, if the party is ready to settle the loan under one time settlement; and

(d) whether the RBI has prescribed specific guideline fixing responsibility on bankers in case of bankers delayed in one time settlement?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) The interest rates on loans have been deregulated by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and it is now based on the Base Rate fixed by the respective banks. However, with a view to ensure availability of agriculture credit to farmers at a reasonable cost, the Government provides interest subvention to make short-term crop loans upto ₹ 3 lakhs at the interest rate of 7% per annum and in case of prompt repayment, the same gets reduced to 4%.

(b) RBI has informed that in terms of its Circular dated June 6, 1985, it has been stipulated in respect of agricultural advances that the total interest debited to an account should not exceed the principal amount for short term advances granted to small and marginal farmers.

(c) and (d) RBI has prescribed the guidelines on Compromise or Negotiated Settlements on Non-Performing Assets (NPAs), which have been issued to all Scheduled Commercial Banks and All India Financial Institutions.

#### **GDP estimates**

994. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the projected/estimated growth in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during 2014-15;

(b) the details of expected contribution of various sectors viz. agriculture, infrastructure and service sectors etc. in the projected/estimated GDP for 2014-15;

(c) whether the growth rate of the country is expected to increase during 2015-16;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating projected GDP during 2015-16 along with the factors which are likely to contribute for the accelerated GDP; and

(e) the reaction of Government regarding widespread doubts and confusion as reported by media about revision in the method of calculation of GDP?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) As per the advance estimates of national income for 2014-15 published by the Central Statistics Office (CSO), the growth rate of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at constant (2011-12 base) market prices is estimated to be 7.4 percent in 2014-15.

(b) For the year 2014-15, sector-wise contribution to Gross Value Added at current basic prices is given in the following table:

Sector	Contribution (%)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	17.0
Industry total	30.1
Mining and quarrying	2.5
Manufacturing	17.0
Electricity, gas, water supply and other utility services	2.5
Construction	8.0
Services total	53.0
Trade, repair, hotels and restaurants	12.2
Transport, storage, communication and services related to broadcasting	6.5
Financial, real estate and professional services	20.9
Community, social and personal services	13.4
GVA at basic prices	100.0

Source: CSO.

Note: Contributions may not add up to 100 per cent owing to rounding off.

(c) and (d) The Economic Survey 2014-15 indicates that the growth rate of GDP at constant market prices can be expected to increase and is likely to be in the range of

8.1 to 8.5 per cent in 2015-16. The increase in GDP growth can be expected on account of factors like benign oil prices, likely monetary policy easing facilitated by lower inflation and lower inflationary expectations and the cumulative effect of various reforms under taken by the Government including fiscal consolidation and reforms and fillip to agriculture, industry and infrastructure.

(e) Apart from revising the base year of national accounts from 2004-05 to 2011-12, the Central Statistics Office (CSO) has covered the corporate sector, financial sector and the activities of local bodies and autonomous institutions in the new series of national accounts more comprehensively. The CSO has put in public domain changes in the methodology and other details on the new series. They have also put a compilation of frequently asked questions on new series along with replies in the public domain. In addition, CSO also organized a Data Users' Conference on the new series of national accounts in April 2015.

#### **Ban on Future Trading in Agriculture Commodities**

995. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to put ban on Future Trading in Agriculture Commodities that indulge in high price volatility;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the commodities which are facing ban on Future Trading, item-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Forward Markets Commission (FMC), the regulator of the commodity futures markets under the provisions of the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952 keeps a close watch on the price trends of all the commodities traded on the commodity futures exchanges and takes measures such as imposition of special margins, additional margins, increasing initial margin, change in position limits etc., to intervene in the market as required. The FMC has also undertaken a number of initiatives to check excessive speculation that impacts price volatility. These measures include introduction of staggered delivery system, dis-allowing contracts in the lean season, scrutiny of volume to open interest ratio and public disclosure of more trade related information.

- (c) At present, no commodity is banned from futures trading.

#### **Permission to Urban Co-operative Banks for ATMs**

996. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: