Increase of accident cover under PMJDY

†1756. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a)   whether Government has any plan to increase the accidental cover from one lakh rupees to five lakh rupees under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY); and

(b)   if so, by when, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b)   In the Union Budget 2015-16, Government has announced one new accidental insurance scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) where insurance cover of rupee two lakh would be available on payment of nominal premium.

Discriminating Tax Regime in Sugar Industry

1757. Dr. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a)   whether Government is aware of the discriminatory tax regime in sugar Industry and their by-products sales by application of VAT and other taxes which results in the suffering of Sugar Mills in Tamil Nadu as compared to Maharashtra and Karnataka States; and

(b)   if so, whether the Government is looking into the issue in view of GST being contemplated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA) : (a) As per Entry 54, in List II (State List), the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, Sales Tax/VAT being tax on sale and purchase is purely State matter and the States have sovereign power in this regard and, therefore, Sales Tax/VAT rate varies from State to State. Information in this regard is not maintained by the Central Government.

(b)   On implementation of Goods and Service Tax in the country, Central Sales Tax/VAT on sale/purchase of goods in the States is proposed to be subsumed into GST.

Target for opening PMJDY account

1758. SHRI MAJEED MEMON : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a)   whether Government has set any target for opening of accounts under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY);

(b)   whether the banks have been able to achieve the target; and

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.