

(b) The Government incorporated many of the suggestions made in the pre-budget meetings in the Budget 2016-17, as stated below:

- (i) Create new infrastructure for irrigation;
- (ii) Conserve soil fertility with balanced use of fertilizer;
- (iii) Special focus to ensure adequate and timely flow of credit to the farmers;
- (iv) Provide value addition and connectivity from farm to markets by implementing the Unified Agriculture Marketing Scheme. The scheme is to be dedicated to the nation on the birthday of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar on 14th April, 2016;
- (v) To ensure that the benefits of MSP reach farmers in all parts of the country, three specific initiatives have been launched: first, remaining States will be encouraged to take up decentralized procurement; second, an online procurement system will be undertaken through Food Corporation of India; and third, effective arrangements have been made for pulses procurement; and
- (vi) 100 per cent FDI in marketing food products produced and manufactured in India.

#### **Exclusion of petroleum from GST ambit**

\*191. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) reasons for excluding petroleum which constitutes around 60 per cent of the revenue, from the ambit of GST; and

(b) whether this exclusion constitutes gross injustice to the States and to the federal structure?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) According to the provisions of the Constitution (122nd Amendment) Bill, 2014 as passed by the Lok Sabha on 06.05.2015 and pending in Rajya Sabha, petroleum and petroleum products have been constitutionally included as 'goods' under GST. However, it has also been provided under Clause 12 (5) of the Bill that petroleum and petroleum products [petroleum crude, high speed diesel, motor spirit (commonly known as petrol), natural gas and aviation turbine fuel] shall not be subject to the levy of GST till notified at a future date on the recommendation of the GST Council. The present taxes levied by the States and the Centre on petroleum and petroleum products, *viz.* Sales Tax/VAT and CST by the States, and excise duty by the Centre, will continue to be levied in the interim period. Since the States were concerned that the inclusion of these products under GST would result in loss of this revenue, this has been

done to insulate the revenues of States from the impact of GST, till a decision is taken in this regard by the GST Council.

On average, about 20% of the revenue of the States from sale of goods comes from Sales Tax/VAT on the sale of petroleum products.

The First Discussion Paper on GST published in 2009 envisaged that the basket of petroleum products should be kept out of GST. In their meeting held in Shillong in November, 2013, the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers also recommended that petroleum products should be kept out of GST.

#### Bad debts in PSBs

†\*192. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per data of Reserve Bank of India, at the end of Financial Year 2012, loans to the tune of ₹ 15,551 crore disbursed by nationalised banks had turned into bad debt;

(b) whether out of the total loans disbursed between years 2013 to 2015, loans worth ₹ 1,14,182 crore had turned into bad debt;

(c) if so, the names of the officers who sanctioned these loans and to which individuals, and basis on which these were sanctioned; and

(d) the steps Government is taking to recover bad debts and if no steps are taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The Gross Advances and Gross Non-Performing Assets (GNPAs) for Nationalised Banks and Public Sector Banks (PSBs) for the Financial Year ending 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015, is as under:

(₹ in crore)

Bank Group	Gross Advances				Gross NPA			
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2012	2013	2014	2015
Nationalised Banks	25,03,374	28,06,057	31,96,023	34,31,508	66,795	95,922	1,40,709	1,96,175
SBI Group	10,47,015	12,49,817	13,94,435	14,84,605	45,694	59,968	76,030	70,890
PSBs	35,50,389	40,55,874	45,90,458	49,16,113	1,12,489	1,55,890	2,16,739	2,67,065

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.