

- Agro-meteorological Field Units (AMFUs) located in each Agroclimatic Zone also provide their inputs to regional Doordarshan channels regarding weather forecast and Agro-meteorological advisories.
- As and when required IMD officers are interviewed by news channel reporters regarding weather forecast and suggested advisory to farmers.
- In addition to the Doordarshan Channel, other private channels also get information from IMD as and when required.
- The Indian National Centre for Ocean information Services (INCOIS) provides Potential Fishing Zone (HFZ) advisories to about 6.75 lakh fishermen on a daily basis to help them to easily locate the areas of abundant fish in the ocean.

As the weather information is being efficiently disseminated by the Government to the farmers and fishermen, launching a dedicated weather channel has not been considered in near future.

(b) No, Sir. IMD is not proposing to start a dedicated channel on Radio to disseminate the weather forecasts and other meteorological news items, as already the weather information is being disseminated through the All India Radio (AIR) stations to the farmers and public.

In addition, the weather forecast and warnings are disseminated through e-mail and fax and are posted in the IMD website also, which are updated four times in a day.

Specific advisories related to agriculture are provided through (a) print/visual/radio/IT based media including Short Message Service (SMS) and Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) to facilitate appropriate field action; (b) weather forecast based agro-meteorological advisories are disseminated through Kisan Portal launched by the Ministry of Agriculture; and (c) the latest weather information, forecast and warnings for the parameters relevant to agriculture are briefed to DD Kisan as routine basis as and when they approach for the same.

The weather information is also disseminated daily through the social media like facebook and twitter.

#### **Refund of CENVAT credit**

2557. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any measures have been taken to allow the refund of accumulated CENVAT credit arising on Inverted Duty structure currently applicable on suppliers to Railways by contractors/subcontractors; and

(b) any measures being undertaken to reduce the impact of Inverted Duty structure on product supplied to Railways by contractors who are manufacturers and significantly contributing to 'Make in India' initiative of Government of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR): (a) and (b) The GST rate of 5% on specified railway parts, with the condition that no refund of unutilized accumulated input tax credit shall be allowed on such parts, has been prescribed on the recommendations of the GST Council. The Council has so far not made a recommendation to make a change in the rate structure.

#### **Transferring rate cut to customers**

2558. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how the Ministry thinks that the recent rate cut of 25 basis points by RBI will lift confidence in investors and arrest the fall of growth;

(b) whether it is also a fact that many times banks are not transferring rate cut to the customers resulting in nil impact of rate cut; and

(c) the efforts being made by RBI and the Ministry to keep liquidity position to make economy positive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR): (a) and (b) As per Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data, during the period from 4.3.2015 to 4.4.2019, policy repo rates were reduced by 150 basis points on cumulative basis and the weighted average lending rate on fresh Rupee loans sanctioned by banks declined by 131 basis points. For the corresponding proximate quarter-ending periods of March, 2015 and March, 2019 the year-on-year rates of growth of loans and advances of Scheduled Commercial Banks in their domestic operations were 9.67% and 13.77% respectively as per RBI data. RBI has also stated that there are lags with which banks adjust their deposit and lending rate in response to change in the policy rate and the transmission is not always proportional or one to one and, further, that there are some factors like maturity mismatch and interest rate risk that arise due to fixed-rate deposits and loan profile with floating rates in banks, which impede full monetary transmission.

(c) With regard to the efforts being made to keep liquidity position positive, RBI has informed that in addition to its daily liquidity operations under the Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF) which provided liquidity to the system of the order of ₹ 17,400 crore on a daily average basis during the period from April, 2019 to June, 2019,