

In particular, the corporate tax rate has been cut to 15 per cent for new domestic manufacturing companies, which is amongst the lowest in the world. This complements a cut in the repo rate by 135 basis points during 2019 by the Reserve Bank of India and mandating of banks to link their lending rates with external benchmarks for reducing the cost of capital for investors. In addition, Government has taken various measures to boost credit in the economy, *inter alia*, including recapitalisation of banks, Partial Credit Guarantee scheme for purchase of pooled assets of NBFCs/HFCs up to ₹ 1 lakh crore, approving realty fund worth ₹ 25000 crore for stalled housing projects, etc.

Bank loans to States

1659. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government and various State Governments are taking huge loans from Public Sector and Private Banks for various infrastructure and development projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of outstanding loans availed by the Central Government and various State Governments from Public Sector Banks and Private Banks either individually or as a consortium separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR): (a) to (c) As per the provisions of sub-section (2) of section 21 of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is entrusted with the issue of any new loan by the Central Government. Likewise, as per the provisions of clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 21A of the said Act, RBI may by agreement with any State Government undertake issue of any new loans by that State Government, and in accordance with the same, RBI currently acts as banker to the Governments of all States in India except Sikkim. Thus, new loans of the Central Government and the said State Governments are issued by RBI (and not Public Sector and Private Banks) in RBI's capacity as banker to the government.