172	Written Answers to	[RAJYA SABHA]			Unstarred Questions	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9.	IFAD/FAD	10.50	11.32	33.95	25.30	3.10
(i)	682(MP)-IN Tejaswini Rural Women Empowerment Programme (MP)	10.50	0.00	1.86	0.00	0.00
(ii)	682MP-A-IN Addl. Financing to Tejaswini Rural Women Empowerment Programme	g 0.00	11.32	32.08	25.30	3.10
	Total (1 to 9)	1,038.88	1,460.76	1,872.81	3,683.74	3,319.25

## Disinvestment of shareholding in PSUs

2436. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning for disinvestment of its shareholdings in public sector undertakings (PSUs) to a level below 51 per cent;
- (b) if so, the details of the PSUs in which Government is proposing to dilute its share in the coming years and by what percentage;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to remove the PSU tag for such undertakings; and
- (d) whether such PSUs will still continue to be under the scrutiny of CAG and CVC after the disinvestment of shareholding below 51 per cent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir. The CCEA has given 'in principle" approval for reduction of GoI paid-up share capital below 51% in select CPSEs on a case to case basis while retaining the management control, taking into account the Government shareholding post such reduction and the shareholding of Government controlled institutions.

(b) The CCEA has decided that the Alternative Mechanism (AM) would make recommendations to CCEA with regard to the extent upto which GoI shareholding in identified CPSEs can be reduced, on a case to case basis.

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(c) No, Sir. There is no proposal to remove the PSU tag for such undertakings.

[10 December, 2019]

(d) Yes, Sir. Such companies shall continue to be covered under the existing provisions of Section 8(2) of the CVC Act, 2003 and Section 139(5) and (7) of the Comptroller General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971.

## Sovereign rating of the country

2437. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- whether it is a fact that India's macroeconomic parameters were among the best globally;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the rating agencies have raised concerns over the level of public debt and refrained from upgrading the sovereign rating of the country; and
  - if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR): (a) Indian economy has grown at an average rate of 7.5 per cent in the last five years (2014-15 to 2018-19), which is the highest amongst the G-20 and 34 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries. Inflation has moderated significantly in last five years (2014-15 to 2018-19) and Consumer Price Inflation (CPI) stood at 3.4 per cent during 2018-19, which is significantly lower than the CPI inflation of 4.8 per cent for the group of emerging and developing economies. The balance of payments situation in the country remains stable with robust foreign exchange reserves, which were recorded at US\$ 451.1 billion as on 29th November, 2019. Fiscal deficit of the Central Government as percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) reduced to 3.3 percent in 2018-19 from 4.5 per cent in 2013-14.

(b) and (c) Moody's Investor Services in its Annual Credit Report has mentioned that India's Government general debt is materially larger than its peer group. It is stated that the factor of public debt is not the sole criteria for the sovereign rating of the country. Rather, sovereign rating depends upon various