

**Improvement in economic growth rate**

225. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the Budget Estimates (BE), Revised Estimates (RE) and actuals with respect to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth of the country during the last three years;

(b) the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to improve the economic growth rate of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR): (a) and (b) Growth rates of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of India during last three years are given below. / Table 1: Growth of GDP at 2011 -12 price base (percent)

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
	(2nd RE)	(1st RE)	(PE)
GDP at constant prices	8.2	7.2	6.8
GDP at current prices	11.5	11.3	11.2

Note: RE - Revised Estimate PE - Provisional Estimate Source: National Statistical Office

India remains one of the fastest growing major economies of the world growing at an average rate of 7.5% during the last five years (2014-18).

(c) The government has announced several measures to boost economic growth. The key reforms include, reduction of corporate tax rate from 30 per cent to 22 per cent to encourage investment in the economy; extension of PM Kisan, an income support scheme, to all farmers for boosting rural consumption; merger of 10 public sector banks into four entities for strengthening their balance sheets and increasing lending; setting up of a Realty fund worth Rs. 25000 crore for financing stalled housing projects; and introducing the scheme for Remission of Duties or Taxes on Export Product (RoDTEP) for promoting exports. Besides, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cut the repo rate by 135 basis points between February and October, 2019 for reducing the lending rates of Banks with a view to encouraging investment in the economy. The RBI has further mandated banks to link their lending rates to external benchmark including the repo rate for lowering the lending rates.