

**Registration of Farmers/Exporters with Apeda**

3107. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for registering small farmer as exporters with the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA); and

(b) the number of farmers registered with APEDA so far, product-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) There is no separate criterion for registering small farmers as exporters with Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA). As per Section 12(1) of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act, 1985, (2 of 1986) read with Rule 9 of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Rules, 1986, every person exporting any one or more items covered by the schedule to the APEDA Act, 1985 shall, before the expiration of one month from the date on which he undertakes such export or before the expiration of three months from the date of coming into force of this section, whichever is later, apply to the Authority to be registered as an exporter of scheduled product or products. Every application for registration as an exporter of scheduled product(s), shall be made to the Secretary or any officer authorised in this behalf by APEDA in the prescribed form and shall be accompanied by a certificate regarding applicant's status as well as fee of Rs. 25/- payable by a money order or demand draft in favour of the Authority or by Indian Postal Order payable to the Authority at a post office in New Delhi.

(b) No separate date is maintained for the farmers registered as exporters with APEDA. Productwise and statewise data is also not maintained. The data is being maintained on the basis of merchant or manufacturer exporter. As on 31.12.96, there were 10333 merchant exporters and 1292 manufacturer exporters registered with APEDA.

**Gramin Bank**

3108. SHRI S.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to provide an amount of Rs. 21.10 crores to the Kashi Gramin Bank in the second phase of reconstitution of regional rural banks; and

(b) if so, the circumstances leading to striking off the name of Kashi Gramin Bank from the final list and the time by which the required capital is likely to be provided to this bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Kashi Gramin Bank was one of the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) selected for provision of equity support during 1995-96. However, due to revision in the budgetary allocation for recapitalisation of RRBs from Rs. 300 crores to Rs. 223.57 crores, capital infusion to some of the selected RRBs including Kashi Gramin Bank could not take place during the year 1995-96. An amount of Rs. 10.05 crores, as Government of India's share (50% out of the total requirement of Rs. 21.10 crores) has since been released to Kashi Gramin Bank.

**Gross Domestic Product**

3109. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the Gross Domestic Product in the country, broad sector-wise in 1995-96;

(b) the estimated growth during the year 1996-97;

(c) whether Central Statistical Organisation has expected 4 per cent growth in agriculture and 8 to 9 per cent growth in Industry;

(d) if so, the reasons for the present recession; and

(e) the steps the Government propose to take to contain such statistical information?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The quick estimates of GDP for different sectors for the year 1995-96 and advance estimate of GDP for the year 1996-97 at 1980-81 prices as released by the Central Statistical Organization (CSO) are indicated in the attached statement along with corresponding growth rates.

(c) to (e) It would be observed from the Annexure that the C.S.O. has assumed a growth rate of 3.7 per cent for agriculture, forestry and fishing; 1.7 per cent for mining and quarrying; 10.6 per cent for manufacturing and 4.6 per cent for construction for the advance estimates of GDP for the year 1996-97. These growth rates are consistent with recent trends of production of these sectors.

The Economic Survey 1996-97 presented to the Parliament a few days ago provides a detailed and balanced account of the current state of the economy.