

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2599
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2002
GDP GROWTH RATE IN CURRENT FISCAL
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI;KAILASH MEGHWAL

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether an internal assessment by the Planning commission has revealed that GDP growth projection for the current fiscal may have to be lowered to 5.5 per cent from 6.5 per cent earlier on account of the drought situation prevailing in some parts of the country;
- (b) whether the Government's attention has been drawn towards news item `UNProjects lower Economic Growth for India` published in `The Hindu` on October 10, 2002 wherein it has been stated that due to present famine like situation and tension at the border in India, the pace of economic growth during the year 2002 would be slow;
- (c) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;
- (d) the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (e) to what extent the drought this year has affected the GDP growth; and
- (f) what are the steps being considered by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE)

- (a) : The Planning Commission does not fix annual growth rate targets;
- (b) :Yes, Sir.
- (c) & (d) :Sufficient details are not available to assess the basis of the projections.
- (e) : Sufficient information is not available to make such an assessment.
- (f) : Does not arise. However, a contingency plan has been prepared for regaining crops lost during the Kharif both for food and non-food crops.