

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:913

ANSWERED ON:25.07.2003

GDP GROWTH

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**Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the GDP growth in 2002-03 was 4.3 per cent, against 5.6 per cent in 2001-02 according to the revised annual growth estimates released by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO);

(b) if so, the reasons given by the CSO for the same;

(c) the Government's response thereto; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the targeted GDP growth in the current year?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO V. ADSUL)

(a) to (c): As per the revised estimates released by the Central Statistical Organisation, the growth in real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at factor cost in 2002-03 was 4.3 per cent compared with 5.6 per cent in 2001-02. The lower growth of GDP in 2002-03 was mainly attributed to the negative growth rate of 3.2 per cent in `agriculture, forestry and fishing` sector on account of drought conditions that prevailed during the year. Growth in 2002-2003 would have been higher but for the drought.

(d): The growth targets are not fixed annually. The Tenth Five Year Plan aims at an annual average growth rate of 8 per cent for the Tenth Five Year Plan period (2002-07).

The Union Budget for 2003-04 has proposed a number of initiatives such as promoting infrastructure development by leveraging public money through private sector participation, promoting private investment and measures aimed at fiscal consolidation. These initiatives are expected to have a positive influence on the growth of the economy.