

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4677

ANSWERED ON:22.04.2015

CHANGES IN BASE YEAR FOR GDP CALCULATION

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**Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) the present Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate of the country;
- (b) the number of times the base year for the National Accounts Statistics including the growth rate of GDP, have been changed since independence along with the criteria for changing the base year;
- (c) whether the latest change in the base year has resulted in the distortion and scaling up of economic data; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons behind change in calculating year for GDP data?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION,  
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS  
INDIAN AFFAIRS [GENERAL (Dr.) V.K. SINGH (Retd.)]

- (a) GDP of the country is estimated to have grown by 7.4 per-cent during 2014-15 as per the Advance Estimates of GDP released in February 2015.
- (b) So far, the base year of National Accounts has been revised seven times. During each base year revision, a comprehensive review of methodology and datasets is made, which results in a revision in the estimates of GDP and the growth rate. Base year revisions are undertaken to take into account the changing structure of the economy. Further, the unorganised sector plays a major role in the Indian economy, for which data is not available on an annual basis and emanates from periodic NSS surveys, mainly those on Employment and Unemployment and on Unincorporated/Unorganised Enterprises. The base year of national accounts is therefore usually revised as and when fresh surveys on these topics are available.
- (c) No Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.