Government of India Ministry of Finance Department of Economic Affairs Economic Division 8(2)/Ec. Dn/2004

MONTHLY ECONOMIC REPORT NOVEMBER, 2004

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Post-Monsoon season rainfall from October 1, 2004 to November 24, 2004 was normal/excess in 56 per cent meteorological sub-divisions.
- Foodgrain stocks were 20.31 million tonnes as on October 1, 2004
- Overall industrial growth was 7.9 per cent in April-September, 2004 as compared with 6.2 per cent in April-September, 2003.
- Core infrastructure sectors achieved an average growth rate of 5.9 per cent in April-October, 2004 as compared with 5.4 per cent in April-October, 2003.
- Broad Money (M3) growth (year-on-year) was 13.9 per cent as on November 12, 2004 as compared with 11.8 per cent last year.
- Exports grew by 23.7 per cent in dollar terms in April-October, 2004 as compared with 7.0 per cent in the corresponding period last year. Imports grew by 32.0 per cent during April-October, 2004 as compared with 21.8 per cent last year.
- Forex reserves (excluding Gold and SDRs) stood at \$ 122.32 billion as on November 30, 2004.
- Rupee appreciated against US Dollar and depreciated against Pound Sterling, Japanese Yen and Euro in October, 2004.
- The annual inflation rate in terms of WPI (Base 1993-94=100) was 7.34 per cent for the week ended November 13, 2004 as compared with 5.42 per cent a year ago.
- Tax revenue (net to Centre) in April-October 2004 (provisional) was higher by 17.6 per cent over April-October 2003.
- Fiscal deficit in April-October 2004 is 45.2 per cent of BE compared with 56.0 per cent of BE in the corresponding period last year.
- Revenue deficit is higher at 83.9 per cent of BE compared with 63.1 per cent in the corresponding previous period.

(G.R.Reddy) Adviser

AGRICULTURE

POST-MONSOON SEASON RAINFALL*

The Post-Monsoon season rainfall from October 1, 2004 to November 24, 2004 was normal/excess in 20 meteorological sub-divisions (56 per cent) and deficient/scanty in the remaining 16 (44 per cent). The annual average for 1999-2003 was normal/excess in 19 (52 per cent) meteorological sub-divisions and deficient/scanty in the remaining 17 (48 per cent).

Number of Meteorological Sub-divisions

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	1999- 2003+	2004
Excess/Normal	31	6	26	12	19	19	20
Deficient/Scanty/Nil	5	30	10	24	17	17	16
Total	36	36	36	36	36	36	36

^{* (}October-December)

PROCUREMENT

Wheat procurement up to November 30, 2004 in the current marketing year (i.e. 2004-05) was higher by 6.3 per cent at 16.80 million tonnes compared with 15.80 million tonnes in the corresponding period of 2003-04. Procurement of rice during the marketing year 2004-05 (up to November 30, 2004) at 9.29 million tonnes was higher by 5.6 per cent than the level of 8.80 million tonnes during the corresponding period of 2003-04.

		Full Mar	Up to N	lov. 30	% change		
	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2003	2004	Col.
							7/Col.6
			Million T	onnes			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Rice(Oct-Sept.)	19.59	21.28	16.41	22.83	8.80	9.29	5.6
Wheat(Apr-Mar)	16.36	20.63	19.06	15.80	15.80	16.80	6.3
Total	35.95	41.91	35.47	38.63	24.60	26.09	6.1

OFF-TAKE

Off-take from the Public Distribution System from Central Pool during April-September, 2004 was 19.30 million tonnes which was lower by 29.2 per cent than the off-take of 27.27 million tonnes during the corresponding period of last year.

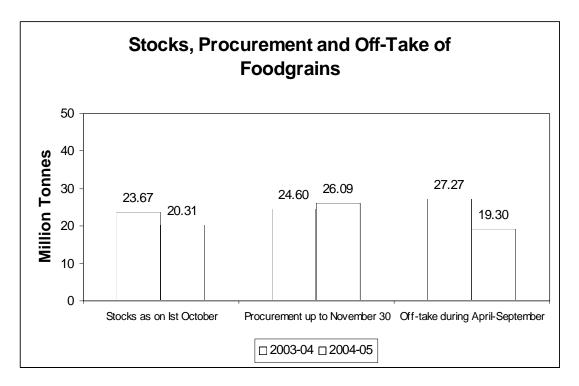
	2001-02(P)	2002-03(P)	2003-04(P)	April-Se _l	ptember
				2003-04(P)	2004-05(P)
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Milli	on Tonnes		
Rice	15.32	24.64	25.04	14.11	10.52
Wheat	15.99	24.99	24.29	13.16	8.78
Total	31.30	49.63	49.33	27.27	19.30

⁺ Annual Average

STOCKS

Stocks of foodgrains as on October 1, 2004 was 20.31 million tonnes which was lower by 14.2 per cent than the level of 23.67 million tonnes as on October 1, 2003.

	As on Se	ptember 1	As on October 1		
	2003	2004	2003	2004	
		Million Tonnes	·		
Rice	7.12	7.15	5.24	6.09	
Wheat	20.71	20.71 15.77		14.22	
Total	27.83	22.92	23.67	20.31	



INDEX OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

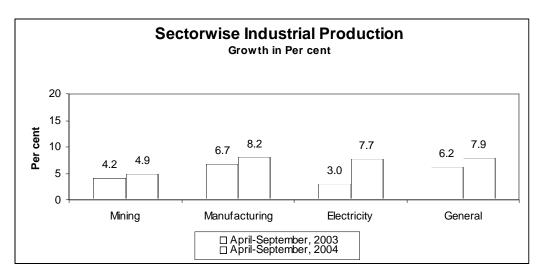
The overall growth rate of Industrial production during April-September 2004 was 7.9 percent as compared to 6.2 percent during April-September, 2003. The growth in mining, manufacturing and electricity during April-September, 2004 was 4.9 percent, 8.2 percent and 7.7 percent as compared to 4.2 percent, 6.7 percent and 3.0 percent respectively, during April-September, 2003.

As per the use-based classification, production in basic goods, capital goods, intermediate goods and consumer goods registered higher growth.

SECTORWISE INDEX OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION
(Base: 1993-94=100)

(Percentage change)

(Tereentage end									
	2002-03	2003-04	Sep. '03	Sep. '04	April-	Sept.			
					2003-04	2004-05			
General	5.7	6.9	7.5	7.7	6.2	7.9			
Mining	5.8	5.2	4.5	4.0	4.2	4.9			
Manufacturing	6.0	7.3	8.0	8.0	6.7	8.2			
Electricity	3.2	5.1	6.0	7.6	3.0	7.7			
Use-Based Classification									
Basic goods	4.9	5.4	5.2	6.7	4.3	5.2			
Capital goods	10.5	13.1	13.8	15.1	10.0	14.5			
Intermediate goods	3.9	6.3	8.0	3.4	5.0	7.7			
Consumer goods	7.1	7.1	7.5	10.4	8.3	8.8			
Of which									
Consumer durables	-6.3	11.5	11.8	20.3	6.7	15.2			
Consumer non-durables	12.0	5.7	6.0	6.8	8.9	6.7			



INFRASTRUCTURE

The six core infrastructure industries registered a higher growth of 5.9 per cent during April-October, 2004 as compared to 5.4 per cent in the corresponding period of last year.

PRODUCTION IN IN	FRAST	RUCT	URE I	NDUST	RIES			
		October FullYr. April-Oct.		% Change				
							Apri	l-Oct.
Industry/Infrastructure	Unit	2003	2004	2003-04	2003-04	2004-05	2003-04	2004-05
Coal	Mn tons	27.8	31.1	354.7	185.2	198.7	3.2	7.3
Electricity Generation	Mn kw	46844	48635	558134	316755	339766	2.9	7.3
Hydel	Mn kw	6650	7939	73796	45438	55541	4.5	22.2
Thermal (including nuclear)	Mn kw	40194	40696	484338	271317	284224	2.7	4.8
Crude petroleum	000 tons	2886	2883	33384	19183	19881	-0.9	3.6
Petroleum Products	000 tons	9375	9970	113241	64169	68761	5.2	7.2
Finished steel	000 tons	3194	3254	36925.1	21775	22659	12.5	4.1
Cement	000 tons	9910	11253	123440	69880	74098	5.7	6.0
Average growth rate*	(%)	4.2	4.6	5.4	-	-	5.4	5.9
		Se	pt.	Full Yr.	April	-Sept.	Apri	l-Sept
Cargo handled at major ports	Mn tons	26.9	29.1	344.52	160.2	175.9	6.6	9.8
Telecommunications								
	000							
a) Net switching capacity	lines	533.6	1036.0	1817.66	2929.6	3270.4	49.4	11.6
b) Net Tele. Connections	000 nos	953.6	474.4	7804.86	4636.7	2898.2	230.2	-37.5
Revenue earning								
goods traffic on railways	Mn tons	43.4	47.7	557.39	266.4	284.8	7.5	6.9

^{*} Weights as in IIP (Base: 1993-94): Coal (3.2), Electricity generation (10.2), Crude oil (4.2), Refinery throughput (2.0), Finished Steel (5.1) and Cement (2.0).

Revenue earning goods traffic handled by Railways

The revenue earning goods traffic handled by Railways during April-September, 2004 increased by 6.9 per cent as compared to 7.5 per cent in the corresponding period of last year.

(Million Tonnes)

	(TVIIIIOII TOIMICS)						
	Se	pt.	Full Year	April-Sept.		%Change	
_							April-
Commodities	2003	2004	2003-04	2003-2004	2004-2005	Sept, 04	Sept, 04
Coal	19.45	21.40	251.66	120.60	128.66	10.0	6.7
Raw material for Steel							
Plants	3.37	3.22	43.94	21.14	19.81	-4.5	-6.3
Pig Iron & Finished							
Steel From Steel Plants	1.11	1.23	14.34	6.74	6.75	10.8	0.1
Iron Ore for Exports	2.20	3.25	26.66	10.95	17.58	47.7	60.5
Cement	3.56	4.16	49.52	23.61	25.94	16.9	9.9
Foodgrains	3.72	3.98	45.43	22.98	23.38	7.0	1.7
Fertilizers	2.31	2.51	25.83	12.44	13.59	8.7	9.2
POL	2.49	2.43	32.02	15.62	15.58	-2.4	-0.3
Balance other goods	5.18	5.51	67.99	32.36	33.51	6.4	3.6
Total	43.39	47.69	557.39	266.44	284.80	9.9	6.9

MONEY AND BANKING

During the current financial year 2004-05, broad money stock (M3) (up to November 12, 2004) increased by 6.5 per cent (exclusive of conversion of non-banking entity into banking entity, 6.3 per cent) as compared with the growth rate of 9.0 per cent registered during the corresponding period of the last year. The year-on-year growth as on November 12, 2004 was 13.9 per cent (exclusive of conversion, 13.7 per cent) as compared with 11.8 per cent on the corresponding date of last year.

Net foreign assets of banking sector (up to November 12, 2004) registered a growth of 12.9 per cent as compared with 16.2 per cent in the same period last year. The net domestic credit during this period increased by 9.2 per cent as compared with 5.6 per cent last year.

Items	Outstand	ling as on		% Variations				
	(Rs.	Rs. crore) Financial year so far		Year-o	on-year			
	March 31, 2004	Nov. 12, 2004	2003-04	2004-05	2003	2004		
M3(I+II+III+IV)	2003102	2132680	9.0	6.5	11.8	13.9		
		(2129111)		(6.3)		(13.7)		
I. Currency with the public	315493	347810	10.2	10.2	13.1	16.2		
II. Demand deposits with banks	256039	256548	6.0	0.2	16.6	21.8		
III. Time deposits with banks	1426451	1521667	9.2	6.7	10.9	12.0		
		(1518098)		(6.4)		(11.8)		
IV. Other deposits with RBI	5119	6654	1.1	30.0	-9.0	102.9		
Sources (1+2+3+4-5)								
1. Net bank credit to Govt. (A+B)	745499	748258	7.1	0.4	11.8	3.2		
		(736065)		(-1.3)		(1.6)		
A. RBI's net credit to Govt.	44907	30737	-46.7	-31.6	-50.9	-52.2		
B. Other bank credit to Govt.	700591	717521	18.8	2.4	27.6	8.6		
2. Bank credit to commercial sector	1017902	1178205	4.4	15.7	11.0	25.6		
		(1145523)		(12.5)		(22.1)		
3. Net foreign exchange assets of banking	526586	594593	16.2	12.9	25.5	29.9		
sector								
4. Government's currency liabilities to	7296	7339	2.6	0.6	5.9	1.2		
the public								
5. Banking sector's net non-monetary liabilities other than time deposits	294181	395716	-1.0	34.5	33.5	54.7		

Note :- Figures within brackets are exclusive of conversion of non-banking entity into banking entity with effect from October 11, 2004.

Scheduled Commercial Banks: Business in India

During the current financial year (up to November 12, 2004) incremental gross bank credit increased by 18.4 per cent (exclusive of conversion, 14.5 per cent) as compared with a growth of 4.6 per cent in the same period of the previous year. The year-on-year growth of gross bank credit as on November 12, 2004 was 30.5 per cent (exclusive of conversion, 26.3 per cent) as against 12.0 per cent on the corresponding date of last year.

Non-Food credit during the financial year so far, registered a growth of 18.6 per cent (exclusive of conversion, 14.5 per cent) as compared with an increase of 7.0 per cent

during the same period of the last year. The annual growth rate was 31.2 per cent (exclusive of conversion, 26.7 per cent) as compared with 16.0 per cent on the corresponding date of last year.

The year-on-year growth of time deposits with banks as on November 12, 2004 was higher at 13.3 per cent (exclusive of conversion, 13.0 per cent) as compared with 10.9 per cent on the corresponding date of last year.

Items	Outstand	ding as on	% Variations				
	(Rs.	crore)	Financi	al year so	Year-on-year		
			f	ar			
	March	Nov. 12,	2003-	2004-05	2003	2004	
	19, 2004	2004	04				
1. Bank credit	840784	995517	4.6	18.4	12.0	30.5	
		(962835)		(14.5)		(26.3)	
Food credit	35961	41228	-28.4	14.6	-34.6	16.3	
Non-Food credit	804823	954289	7.0	18.6	16.0	31.2	
		(921607)		(14.5)		(26.7)	
2. Aggregate deposit	1504416	1596617	8.7	6.1	11.7	14.7	
		(1593049)		(5.9)		(14.4)	
Demand deposit	225022	225757	7.2	0.3	17.4	23.6	
Time deposits	1279394	1370860	9.0	7.1	10.9	13.3	
		(1367292)		(6.9)		(13.0)	
3. Investments in Govt. and other	677587	691570	17.2	2.1	25.0	7.8	
approved securities							
		(679377)		(0.3)		(5.9)	
Government securities	654757	665364	18.1	1.6	26.5	7.7	
		(653171)		(-0.2)		(5.7)	
Other approved securities	22830	26206	-2.4	14.8	-5.2	11.2	

Note: Figures within brackets are exclusive of conversion of non-banking entity into banking entity with effect from October 11, 2004

INTEREST RATES (PER CENT PER ANNUM)

As on November 12, 2004 Bank Rate was 6.00 per cent same as on the corresponding date of last year. Call money rates (borrowing) were in the range of 4.75/6.95 as compared with 1.50/4.70 per cent on the corresponding date of last year.

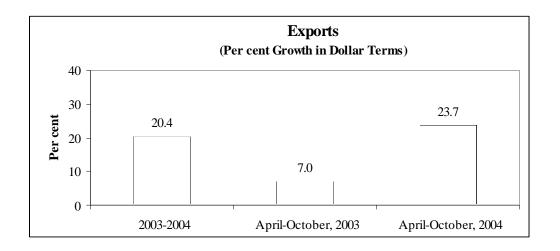
Item/week ended	2003	2004
	Nov. 14	Nov. 12
1	2	3
Bank Rate	6.00	6.00
IDBI ¹	12.50	10.25
Prime Lending Rate ²	10.50-11.50	10.25-10.75
Deposit Rate ³	5.00-6.00	5.00-5.50
Call Money Rate ⁴ (Low/High)		
Borrowings	1.50/4.70	4.75/6.95
Lending	1.50/4.80	4.75/6.95

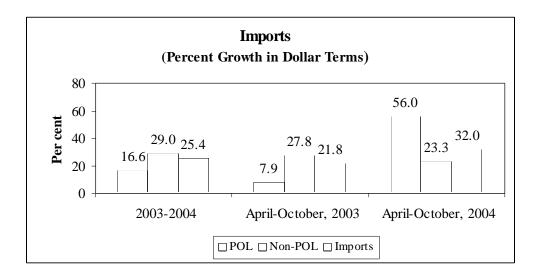
- 1. Minimum Term Lending Rate (MTLR)
- 2. Prime Lending Rate relates to five major Banks
- 3. Deposit Rate relates to major banks for term deposits of more than one year maturity.
- 4. Call money rates are based on data covering 90-95 per cent of total transactions reported by major participants.

FOREIGN TRADE

Exports in dollar terms during April-October, 2004 increased by 23.7 percent as compared to an increase of 7.0 percent during April-October, 2003. Imports increased by 32.0 percent during April-October, 2004 as against an increase of 21.8 percent last year.

			April-O	ctober	% C	hange
Item	2002-03 (R)	2003-04(PR)	2003-04	2004-05	2003-04	2004-05
		Rs. Cro	ore			
Exports	255137	291582	150817	183608	1.8	21.7
Imports	297206	353976	192161	249502	15.9	29.8
POL	85367	94520	51041	78236	2.6	53.3
Non-POL	211839	259456	141120	171266	21.5	21.4
Trade Balance	-42069	-62394	-41344	-65894	-	-
		Million De	ollars			
Item						
Exports	52719	63454	32564	40291	7.0	23.7
Imports	61412	77032	41472	54732	21.8	32.0
POL	17640	20569	11008	17170	7.9	56.0
Non-POL	43773	56463	30464	37562	27.8	23.3
Trade Balance	-8693	-13578	-8908	-14441	-	-
(R): Revised (PR):	Partially Revised					





FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES (EXCLUDING GOLD & SDRs)

	Amount		Variation			
	Rs.Crore	\$ Million	Rs.Crore	\$ Million		
At the end of			(over las	st year)		
March, 1996	58446	17044	-7560	-3765		
March, 1997	80368	22367	21922	5323		
March, 1998	102507	25975	22139	3608		
March, 1999	125412	29522	22905	3547		
March, 2999	152924	35058	27512	5536		
March, 2001	184482	39554	31558	4496		
March, 2002	249118	51049	64636	11495		
March, 2003	341476	71890	92358	20841		
March, 2004	466215	107448	124739	35558		
2004-2005			(over last month)			
April	501429	113011	35214	5563		
May	519847	114102	18418	1091		
June	524865	114151	5018	49		
July	524732	112967	-133	-1184		
August	522333	112717	-2399	-250		
September	522515	113788	182	1071		
October	525632	115651	3117	1863		
November*	547377	122319	21745	6668		
December						
January						
February						
March						
* Provisional		•				

EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE AND DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS

Gross external aid during April-October, 2004 at Rs 7023.63 crore was 6.7 percent higher than that of Rs 6581.00 crore in the same period of last year. Net Aid flows were Rs. 2940.57 crore as compared with Rs. (-) 2121.25 crore during the same period of last year. Net Aid Transfers were Rs. 1290.44 crore as compared with Rs. (-) 4027.08 crore during the same period of last year.

EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE AND DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS*

(Rs crore)

	Receipts		Repayment of Principal		Payment of Interest	
	2003-04	2004-05	2003-04	2004-05	2003-04	2004-05
External Assistance -						
Govt A/C	5329.37	5555.77	7400.82	3568.13	1651.94	1421.66
External Assistance –						
Non-Govt A/C	754.82	392.17	1301.43	514.93	253.89	228.47
Govt. Grant	440.23	1039.89	-	-	-	-
Non-Govt Grant	56.58	35.80	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	6581.00	7023.63	8702.25	4083.06	1905.83	1650.13
Net Disbursement	-2121.25	2940.57	-	-	-	-
Net Transfers	-4027.08	1290.44				
* April -October						

Rupees Per Unit of foreign Currency

The average market exchange rate of the Rupee during October, 2004 appreciated against US Dollar and depreciated against Pound Sterling, Euro and Japanese Yen as compared with average market exchange rate of the Rupee during September, 2004.

			(N	Iarket Rate)@
	US Dollar	Pound Sterling	Japanese Yen	Euro
March, 2001	46.62	67.39	0.3846	42.44
March, 2002	48.74	69.37	0.3723	42.75
March, 2003	47.64	75.44	0.4015	51.52
March, 2004	45.08	82.29	0.4141	55.25
2003-2004				
April	43.93	79.24	0.4081	52.66
May	45.25	80.88	0.4037	54.35
June	45.51	83.21	0.4159	55.25
July	46.04	84.86	0.4212	56.51
August	46.34	84.33	0.4196	56.43
September	46.10	82.61	0.4190	56.27
October	45.78	82.72	0.4202	57.19
November				
December				
January				
February				
March				
@ FEDAI Rates		·		

INFLATION

The annual rate of inflation based on Wholesale Price Index (WPI) stood at 7.34 per cent for week ended November 13, 2004 compared with 5.42 per cent a year ago. This rate was contributed by an increase of 4.64 per cent in Primary Articles, 14.26 per cent increase in Fuel, Power, Lights and Lubricants and 5.97 per cent increase in Manufactured Products as against an increase of 3.39 per cent, 6.29 per cent and 5.92 per cent respectively on the corresponding date of last year.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX

WHOLESALE PRICE (Base: 1993-94)								
I4	Wai alat(0/)	Percent variation during						
Items/Groups	Weight(%)	Month		Year (Point to Point)				
					(ending 13-11-2004)			
		Last year	Current year	Last	Current			
				year	year			
All Commodities	100.00	0.51	0.74	5.42	7.34			
1.Primary articles	22.03	0.00	0.58	3.39	4.64			
2. fuel,Power,Light and Libricants	14.23	0.55	3.51	6.29	14.26			
3. Manufactured Products	63.75	0.64	-0.24	5.92	5.97			

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

All India Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW) for September, 2004 which stood at 523, increased by 0.2 per cent over previous month's level and increased by 4.8 percent over September, 2003.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX AND INFLATION RATE (%)						
	2003-04 2004-0					
	(Up to Sept., 2003)	(Up to Sept., 2004)				
Annual Inflation	2.9	4.8				
Financial Year Inflation	2.5	3.8				
% Change over last month	0.0	0.2				
Level of Index	499	523				
Average of Index for 12 months ending September	491.42	508.92				

PUBLIC FINANCE

Trends in Central Government Finances: April-October 2004

	Budget Estimates	April-October		Col.3 as	Col. 4 as	% Change over proceeding year	
	2004-05	2003-04	2004-05	% of 2003-04	% of 2004-05	2003-04	
		(Rs. Crore)		BE	BE		(4/3)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7))	(8)
1. Revenue Receipts	309322	120190	132790	47.3	42.9	9.9	10.5
Gross tax revenue	317733	112363	136238	44.7	42.9	8.9	21.2
Tax (net to Centre)	233906	79589	93568	43.2	40.0	12.7	17.6
Non Tax	75416	40601	39222	58.2	52.0	4.7	-3.4
2. Capital Receipts	168507	133580	100825	72.3	59.8	56.7	-24.5
of which:							
Recovery of loans	27100	46385	38468	257.4	141.9	274.7	-17.1
Other Receipts	4000	1217	222	9.2	5.6		
Borrowings and other	137407	85978	62135	56.0	45.2	23.2	-27.7
liabilities 3. Total Receipts (1+2)	477829	253770	233615	57.8	48.9	30.4	-7.9
4.Non-Plan Expenditure	332239	193469	172860	60.9	52.0	61.0	-10.7
(a)+(b) (a) Revenue Account	293650	151285	157024	52.3	53.5	11.5	3.8
Of which:							
Interest payments	129500	60355	63116	49.0	48.7	4.8	4.6
Major Subsidies	42021	30526	28366	62.8	67.5	36.2	-7.1
Pensions	15928	7700	9460	49.8	59.4	14.9	22.9
(b) Capital Account	38589	42184	15836	148.3	41.0	408.3	-62.5
5.Plan Expenditure (i)+(ii)	145590	60301	60755	49.8	41.7	19.0	0.8
(i) Revenue Account	91843	39761	39645	51.7	43.2	30.8	-0.3
(ii) Capital Account	53747	20540	21110	46.5	39.3	1.5	2.8
6.Total Expenditure (4)+(5)=(a)+(b)	477829	253770	233615	57.8	48.9	30.4	-7.9
(a)Revenue Expenditure	385493	191046	196669	52.2	51.0	15.0	2.9
(b)Capital Expenditure	92336	62724	36946	86.4	40.0	119.8	-41.1
7. Revenue Deficit	76171	70856	63879	63.1	83.9	24.9	-9.8 27.7
8. Fiscal Deficit	137407	85978	62135	56.0	45.2	23.2	-27.7
9. Primary Deficit	7907	25623	-981	84.2	-12.4	110.4	-103.8

Source: CGA, Ministry of Finance, (Department of Expenditure).

Note:

(i) The figures of Railways have been netted as in Budget.

(ii) Un-audited.