Position No.16

Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Economic Affairs

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. **+*436**
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, 16th DECEMBER, 2016
AGRAHAYANA 25, 1938 (SAKA)

PER CAPITA DEBT

+*436. SHRI LAXMI NARAYAN YADAV:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE (**वित्त मंत्री**) be pleased to state:

(a) whether the per capita debt burden is on the rise in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(c) the details of the per capita debt burden in the country at present in comparison to the per capita debt burden during the year 2009 along with the interest paid thereon?

ANSWER

FINANCE MINISTER (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) to (c): A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. +*436 for answer on December 16, 2016 raised by SHRI LAXMI NARAYAN YADAV AND SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY regarding PER CAPITA DEBT

As per Finance Accounts and data on population, per capita debt calculated on the basis of Union Government Debt as on 31st March 2016 was ₹ 53,796 as against ₹ 49,270 as on 31st March 2015.

The per capita debt has increased primarily on account of developmental expenditure to achieve higher growth. The per capita debt burden of Union Government *inter-alia* includes external debt, internal debt and other liabilities as per Finance Accounts of the Union Government, the per capita debt during 2009-10 and from 2013-14 to 2015-16 is as under:

Table: Details of per capita debt and Interest Paid on Debt

Year	Per capita Debt (₹)	Interest paid on Debt (₹ in crore)
2009-10	30,171	213,093
2013-14	45,319	374,254
2014-15	49,270	402,444
2015-16	53,796	441,659

The Central Government has been following a comprehensive strategy to moderate growth in public debt through a policy of fiscal rectitude including, inter alia, recourse to lower cost borrowings, phased introduction of active consolidation of debt, emphasis on raising funds on concessional terms and from less expensive sources with longer maturities, monitoring short term debt and encouraging non-debt creating capital flows. The reduction in Fiscal deficit from 3.9 per cent of GDP in RE 2015-16 to 3.5 per cent of GDP in BE 2016-17 is designed with a mix of reduction in total expenditure as percentage of GDP and improvement in gross tax revenue as percentage of GDP. With reprioritization of expenditure towards developmental side and curtailing the growth in non-development expenditure, total expenditure is estimated to decline as percentage of GDP.

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