

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1034
TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY, THE 10th FEBRUARY, 2025
MAGHA 21, 1946 (SAKA)

DEBT-GDP RATIO

1034. Shri. Subbarayan K:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Debt-GDP ratio of the country has gone up to 56.8% from 49.3% in F.Y. 2018-19;
- (b) if so, the details of the total debts of the country and the percentage of Debt-GDP ratio since 2018-19;
- (c) the details of the external debt and external Debt-GDP ratio for the period 2018-19 till date;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to reduce the Debt-GDP ratio by at least one percentage every year till it reaches to a sustainable ratio; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to achieve the target and the details of sustainable Debt-GDP ratio?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b): The details of the Central Government Debt and Debt-GDP ratio since 2018-19 are as under:

Financial Year	Central Government Debt	
	Amount (₹ lakh crore)	(% of GDP)
2018-19	93.26	49.3
2019-20	105.07	52.3
2020-21	121.86	61.4*
2021-22	138.66	58.8
2022-23	156.02	57.9
2023-24	171.70	58.1
2024-25(RE)	185.11	57.1
2025-26 (BE)	200.16	56.1

*Covid-19 pandemic impact

(c): The details of the external debt and external debt-GDP ratio since 2018-19 is as under:

Financial Year	External Debt (current exchange rate)	
	Amount (₹ lakh crores)	(% of GDP)
2018-19	4.74	2.5
2019-20	5.44	2.7
2020-21	6.15	3.1
2021-22	6.58	2.8
2022-23	7.48	2.8
2023-24	7.96	2.7
2024-25 (RE)	8.46	2.6
2025-26 (BE)	8.92	2.5

(d) & (e): The Union Government in Budget Speech of FY 2024-25 (Regular Budget) has outlined a medium-term fiscal policy stance. It seeks to keep the Central Government fiscal deficit to GDP ratio such that the debt to GDP ratio is on a declining path. Further, it has been highlighted in FRBM documents of FY 2025-26, that sans any major macro-economic disruptive exogenous shock(s), and while keeping in mind potential growth trends and emergent development needs, the Government endeavours to keep fiscal deficit in each year (from FY 2026-27 till FY 2030-31) such that the Central Government debt is on declining path to attain a debt to GDP level of about 50±1 per cent by 31st March 2031.
