GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 980 TO BE ANSWERED ON 10 FEBRUARY 2025

HOUSEHOLD SAVINGS AND LIABILITIES

980. Ms Sayani Ghosh

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the per capita household debt in the country during the last ten years, year-wise;
- (b) the details of the households' savings as a percentage of GDP during the last ten years, yearwise:
- (c) whether it is a fact that household liabilities have increased during the last five years, if so, the details of the household liabilities as a percentage of GDP during the last ten years;
- (d) whether the Government recognises 'middle class' as a category of consumers, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has taken note that the middle class is the worst affected consumer leading to a 'shrinking middle class' syndrome, if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

- (a) As per Reserve Bank of India, the data on stock of household financial liabilities is available from March 2019. Accordingly, the data on per capita household financial liabilities from March 2019 to March 2024 are placed in Annexure A.
- (b) As per National Account Statistics released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, the latest available data on household savings is for the year 2022-23. Accordingly, household savings as a percentage of GDP from 2014-15 to 2022-23 is placed in Annexure-B.
- (c) As per Reserve Bank of India, the data on the stock of household financial liabilities is available from March 2019. Accordingly, the data on household financial liabilities as a percentage of GDP from March 2019 to March 2024 are placed in Annexure-C.

(d) & (e): The Government has proposed significant measures in the Union Budget 2025-26 to enhance the spending power of the middle class. In a major reform measure, the Union Budget has proposed that there will be no income tax payable upto income of ₹12 lakh under the new tax regime. The Budget has also proposed a change in slabs and rates of personal income tax across the board to benefit taxpayers. The new structure is expected to substantially reduce the taxes of the middle class and leave more money in their hands, boosting household consumption, savings and investment. The other measures of the Government to benefit the middle class include enhanced pension schemes, support for affordable housing, public health schemes, financial backing for entrepreneurs, and initiatives to promote sustainable infrastructure. The Government does not have any information on the 'shrinking middle-class' syndrome.

Annexure-A

As at end March	Per capita household financial liabilities (in ₹)
2019	46,898
2020	52,090
2021	57,306
2022	63,000
2023	73,887
2024	86,713

Source: The data on the stock of household financial liabilities are sourced from RBI. The population estimates are sourced from National Account Statistics, MoSPI for calculating the per capita household financial liabilities.

Annexure-B

Year	Household savings (as per cent of GDP)
2013-14	20.3
2014-15	19.6
2015-16	18.0
2016-17	18.1
2017-18	19.3
2018-19	20.3
2019-20	19.1
2020-21	22.7
2021-22	20.1
2022-23	18.4

Annexure-C

	Household Financial Liabilities (as
As at end March	per cent of GDP)
2019	32.9
2020	34.7
2021	39.1
2022	36.5
2023	37.9
2024	41.0
