

- (a) the growth rate of the Indian economy during the first half of 2016-17;
- (b) the growth rate of the economy in comparison to the growth rate achieved during the same time period in 2015-16; and
- (c) the details of the measures taken to augment the economic growth?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) and (b): The Central Statistics Office has not, so far, made any estimate of the growth rate of the Indian economy for the first half of 2016-17. The growth rate of the economy, measured by the growth in Gross Domestic Product at constant (2011-12) market prices, for the first half (April-September) of 2015-16 was 7.5 per cent.

(c): Undertaking measures to promote economic growth is high on the agenda of the Government. The Government of India has taken various initiatives to boost the growth of the economy which, *inter alia*, include; fillip to manufacturing and infrastructure through fiscal incentives and concrete measures for transport, power, and other urban and rural infrastructure; substantive reforms and liberalization of foreign direct investment in major sectors; measures to debottleneck the supply of key raw materials; Skill India and Digital India initiatives; and, "Make in India" initiative along with the attendant facilitatory measures for a more conducive environment for investment. The other measures like: the new insolvency and bankruptcy related legislation; Start-up India Initiative to boost entrepreneurship and creation of jobs; "Stand Up India Scheme" to promote entrepreneurship among SC/ST and women entrepreneurs; boost to agricultural sector with focus on micro irrigation, watershed development, soil conservation and credit; and, various measures to improve clarity and transparency in economic policy-making are also likely to promote growth.
