## Industrial Outlook Survey of the Manufacturing Sector for Q2:2017-18

Today, the Reserve Bank released results of the $79^{\text {th }}$ round of the Industrial Outlook Survey (IOS) conducted in July-September 2017. The Survey captures qualitative assessments of the business situation by companies in the Indian manufacturing sector for Q2:2017-18 and their expectations for Q3:2017-18 ${ }^{1}$. Responses were received from 1141 companies in this round of the survey.

## Highlights:

## 1. Assessment for $\mathrm{Q} 2: 2017-18$

1.1 Respondents were more optimistic in Q2:2017-18 on the parameters, pending order, exports, imports, and employment; and were less optimistic in case of order books, raw material inventory, finished goods inventory, and overall business situation.
1.2 Optimism on the overall financial situation declined, due to worsening of the availability of finance.
1.3 Sentiment on cost of finance and raw materials improved marginally and salaries seem to have decreased, but profit margins have shrunk due to pessimism surrounding selling prices.
1.4 Overall, business sentiment in the Indian manufacturing sector has worsened, as reflected in the decline in the Business Expectations Index (BEI) ${ }^{2}$ from 105.4 in Q1:2017-18 to 103.6 in Q2:2017-18.


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## 2. Expectations for $\mathrm{Q} 3: 2017-18$

2.1 The outlook for demand parameters for Q3:2017-18 improved across parameters. However, availability of finance may deteriorate further in Q3:2017-18.
2.2 The outlook on cost of raw materials and cost of finance for Q3:2017-18 improved but manufacturing sector may continue to lose pricing power resulting into low profit margin.
2.3 The BEI (expectation) for Q3:2017-18 has shown marginal improvement.

| Summary Table <br> Net response ${ }^{3}$ (in \%) comparison over previous quarter |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Parameters | Assessment period |  | Expectation period |  |
|  | Q1:2017-18 | Q2:2017-18 | Q2:2017-18 | Q3:2017-18 |
| Production | 16.0 | 16.4 | 30.2 | 34.3 |
| Order Books | 13.7 | 12.1 | 28.0 | 29.9 |
| Pending Orders | 11.3 | 13.7 | 6.0 | 6.7 |
| Capacity Utilisation | 7.1 | 7.1 | 16.3 | 20.8 |
| Exports | 3.4 | 8.8 | 16.3 | 19.0 |
| Imports | 7.1 | 8.9 | 10.7 | 12.8 |
| Employment | 5.4 | 7.3 | 8.7 | 10.4 |
| Financial Situation (Overall) | 19.1 | 15.8 | 27.9 | 28.7 |
| Availability of Finance (from internal accruals) | 14.1 | 13.7 | 20.4 | 20.2 |
| Availability of Finance (from banks \& other sources) | 14.9 | 13.8 | 16.9 | 14.1 |
| Availability of Finance (from overseas, if applicable) | 5.8 | 5.0 | 7.0 | 4.1 |
| Cost of Finance | -1.2 | -0.5 | -3.8 | -2.2 |
| Cost of Raw Material | -42.1 | -41.8 | -36.4 | -31.9 |
| Selling Price | 5.0 | -0.1 | 7.9 | 7.0 |
| Profit Margin | -12.5 | -14.0 | 0.3 | 1.8 |
| Overall Business Situation | 21.4 | 17.3 | 33.7 | 36.9 |
| Salary | 39.4 | 34.5 | 32.0 | 23.9 |
| Business Expectations Index | 105.4 | 103.6 | 113.3 | 115.0 |

[^1]Table 1: Assessment \& Expectation for Production
(Percentage responses) ${ }^{@}$

| Quarter | Total response | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Increase | Decreas e | No change | Net response ${ }^{\#}$ | Increase | Decrease | No change | $\begin{gathered} \text { Net } \\ \text { response } \end{gathered}$ |
| Q2:2016-17 | 723 | 31.4 | 20.6 | 48.0 | 10.8 | 40.2 | 11.2 | 48.6 | 29.0 |
| Q3:2016-17 | 1221 | 32.0 | 21.2 | 46.8 | 10.8 | 40.9 | 12.0 | 47.2 | 28.9 |
| Q4:2016-17 | 1244 | 35.8 | 17.8 | 46.4 | 18.0 | 41.1 | 13.3 | 45.6 | 27.8 |
| Q1:2017-18 | 1250 | 34.5 | 18.5 | 46.9 | 16.0 | 41.6 | 11.7 | 46.7 | 29.9 |
| Q2:2017-18 | 1141 | 34.9 | 18.5 | 46.6 | 16.4 | 42.2 | 12.0 | 45.8 | 30.2 |
| Q3:2017-18 |  |  |  |  |  | 43.4 | 9.1 | 47.5 | 34.3 |

'Increase' in production is optimistic.
${ }^{@}$ :Due to rounding off percentage may not add up to 100 . This is applicable for all the tables from 1 to 17 .
\#: Net Response (NR) is the difference of percentage of the respondents reporting optimism and that reporting pessimism. The range is -100 to 100 . Any value greater than zero indicates expansion and any value less than zero indicates contraction.

Table 2: Assessment \& Expectation for Order Books
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Total response | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Increase | Decrease | No change | Net response | Increase | Decrease | No change | Net response |
| Q2:2016-17 | 723 | 29.3 | 20.4 | 50.3 | 9.0 | 38.1 | 10.8 | 51.1 | 27.3 |
| Q3:2016-17 | 1221 | 29.1 | 22.0 | 48.9 | 7.1 | 36.4 | 11.7 | 51.9 | 24.7 |
| Q4:2016-17 | 1244 | 34.8 | 19.2 | 46.0 | 15.6 | 35.1 | 14.2 | 50.7 | 20.9 |
| Q1:2017-18 | 1250 | 32.7 | 19.0 | 48.3 | 13.7 | 39.5 | 11.5 | 49.0 | 28.0 |
| Q2:2017-18 | 1141 | 31.8 | 19.7 | 48.5 | 12.1 | 39.7 | 11.7 | 48.6 | 28.0 |
| Q3:2017-18 |  |  |  |  |  | 39.6 | 9.6 | 50.8 | 29.9 |

'Increase' in order books is optimistic. Footnotes '@' and '\#' given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table 3: Assessment \& Expectation for Pending Orders
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Total response | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Below Normal | Above Normal | Normal | Net response | Below Normal | Above Normal | Normal | Net response |
| Q2:2016-17 | 723 | 18.9 | 5.2 | 75.9 | 13.7 | 12.9 | 6.3 | 80.8 | 6.6 |
| Q3:2016-17 | 1222 | 19.0 | 5.3 | 75.7 | 13.7 | 12.9 | 6.7 | 80.4 | 6.2 |
| Q4:2016-17 | 1244 | 18.1 | 5.1 | 76.9 | 13.0 | 15.3 | 5.0 | 79.7 | 10.3 |
| Q1:2017-18 | 1250 | 17.0 | 5.7 | 77.3 | 11.3 | 13.4 | 4.9 | 81.8 | 8.5 |
| Q2:2017-18 | 1141 | 17.9 | 4.2 | 77.9 | 13.7 | 12.5 | 6.5 | 81.0 | 6.0 |
| Q3:2017-18 |  |  |  |  |  | 11.4 | 4.7 | 83.9 | 6.7 |

Pending orders 'Below Normal' is optimistic. Footnotes '@' and '\#' given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table 4: Assessment \& Expectation for Capacity Utilisation (Main Product)
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Total response | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Increase | Decrease | No change | Net response | Increase | Decrease | No change | Net response |
| Q2:2016-17 | 723 | 21.5 | 17.9 | 60.7 | 3.6 | 26.5 | 9.7 | 63.9 | 16.8 |
| Q3:2016-17 | 1222 | 20.2 | 17.9 | 61.9 | 2.3 | 27.4 | 10.2 | 62.5 | 17.2 |
| Q4:2016-17 | 1244 | 25.9 | 15.7 | 58.4 | 10.2 | 27.6 | 11.2 | 61.2 | 16.4 |
| Q1:2017-18 | 1250 | 22.5 | 15.4 | 62.0 | 7.1 | 28.1 | 10.9 | 61.0 | 17.2 |
| Q2:2017-18 | 1141 | 22.9 | 15.8 | 61.3 | 7.1 | 27.6 | 11.3 | 61.1 | 16.3 |
| Q3:2017-18 |  |  |  |  |  | 28.8 | 8.0 | 63.2 | 20.8 |

'Increase' in capacity utilisation is optimistic. Footnotes '@' and '\#' given in Table 1 are applicable here.
Table 5: Assessment \& Expectation for Level of CU (compared to the average in last 4 quarters)

| Quarter | Total response | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Above Normal | Below Normal | Normal | Net response | Above Normal | Below Normal | Normal | Net response |
| Q2:2016-17 | 723 | 9.3 | 15.4 | 75.3 | -6.0 | 10.3 | 11.9 | 77.8 | -1.6 |
| Q3:2016-17 | 1222 | 8.7 | 16.4 | 74.9 | -7.7 | 10.8 | 11.5 | 77.7 | -0.7 |
| Q4:2016-17 | 1244 | 9.3 | 16.1 | 74.6 | -6.8 | 10.6 | 12.9 | 76.5 | -2.3 |
| Q1:2017-18 | 1250 | 8.4 | 15.1 | 76.5 | -6.7 | 9.9 | 12.2 | 77.9 | -2.3 |
| Q2:2017-18 | 1141 | 9.7 | 15.6 | 74.7 | -6.0 | 9.7 | 10.8 | 79.5 | -1.1 |
| Q3:2017-18 |  |  |  |  |  | 11.4 | 9.6 | 79.0 | 1.8 |

'Above Normal' in Level of capacity utilisation is optimistic. Footnotes '@' and '\#' given in Table 1 are applicable here.
Table 6: Assessment \& Expectation for Assessment of Production Capacity (with regard to expected demand in next 6 months)
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Total response | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | More than adequate | Less than adequate | Adequate | Net response | More than adequate | Less than adequate | Adequate | Net response |
| Q2:2016-17 | 723 | 14.4 | 8.2 | 77.3 | 6.2 | 13.6 | 7.6 | 78.8 | 6.0 |
| Q3:2016-17 | 1222 | 12.3 | 9.1 | 78.6 | 3.2 | 14.2 | 7.4 | 78.4 | 6.8 |
| Q4:2016-17 | 1244 | 14.1 | 7.1 | 78.7 | 7.0 | 11.9 | 7.4 | 80.7 | 4.5 |
| Q1:2017-18 | 1250 | 12.3 | 7.4 | 80.3 | 4.9 | 13.3 | 6.7 | 79.9 | 6.6 |
| Q2:2017-18 | 1141 | 10.4 | 7.4 | 82.2 | 3.0 | 12.2 | 6.6 | 81.2 | 5.6 |
| Q3:2017-18 |  |  |  |  |  | 11.1 | 6.5 | 82.4 | 4.6 |

'More than adequate' in Assessment of Production Capacity is optimistic. Footnotes '@' and '\#' given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table 7: Assessment \& Expectation for Exports
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Total response | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Increase | Decrease | No change | Net response | Increase | Decrease | No change | Net response |
| Q2:2016-17 | 723 | 19.8 | 20.6 | 59.6 | -0.8 | 26.3 | 9.5 | 64.2 | 16.8 |
| Q3:2016-17 | 1221 | 22.9 | 18.5 | 58.6 | 4.4 | 24.3 | 13.2 | 62.5 | 11.2 |
| Q4:2016-17 | 1244 | 24.3 | 17.7 | 58.0 | 6.6 | 25.3 | 13.2 | 61.5 | 12.1 |
| Q1:2017-18 | 1250 | 22.2 | 18.8 | 59.0 | 3.4 | 26.5 | 11.3 | 62.2 | 15.2 |
| Q2:2017-18 | 1141 | 24.2 | 15.4 | 60.4 | 8.8 | 27.9 | 11.6 | 60.5 | 16.3 |
| Q3:2017-18 |  |  |  |  |  | 27.6 | 8.6 | 63.8 | 19.0 |

[^2]Table 8: Assessment \& Expectation for Imports
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Total response | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Increase | Decrease | No change | Net response | Increase | Decrease | No change | Net response |
| Q2:2016-17 | 723 | 17.5 | 10.6 | 71.9 | 7.0 | 17.5 | 7.9 | 74.6 | 9.6 |
| Q3:2016-17 | 1221 | 17.9 | 11.7 | 70.4 | 6.2 | 18.1 | 9.4 | 72.5 | 8.7 |
| Q4:2016-17 | 1244 | 17.5 | 10.7 | 71.8 | 6.8 | 17.7 | 9.3 | 73.1 | 8.4 |
| Q1:2017-18 | 1250 | 17.4 | 10.3 | 72.2 | 7.1 | 17.3 | 7.2 | 75.5 | 10.1 |
| Q2:2017-18 | 1141 | 17.1 | 8.2 | 74.7 | 8.9 | 18.6 | 7.9 | 73.5 | 10.7 |
| Q3:2017-18 |  |  |  |  |  | 17.8 | 5.0 | 77.2 | 12.8 |

'Increase' in imports is optimistic. Footnotes '@' and '\#' given in Table 1 are applicable here.
Table 9: Assessment \& Expectation for level of Raw Materials Inventory (Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Total response | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Below average | Above average | Average | Net response | Below average | Above average | Average | Net response |
| Q2:2016-17 | 723 | 7.0 | 11.8 | 81.2 | -4.8 | 5.8 | 10.8 | 83.5 | -5.0 |
| Q3:2016-17 | 1221 | 7.3 | 11.7 | 81.2 | -4.4 | 5.2 | 10.3 | 84.5 | -5.2 |
| Q4:2016-17 | 1244 | 6.9 | 12.4 | 81.1 | -5.5 | 6.8 | 9.0 | 84.2 | -2.2 |
| Q1:2017-18 | 1250 | 6.7 | 12.2 | 81.2 | -5.5 | 6.1 | 8.7 | 85.2 | -2.6 |
| Q2:2017-18 | 1141 | 6.2 | 13.1 | 80.8 | -6.9 | 6.1 | 10.7 | 83.2 | -4.6 |
| Q3:2017-18 |  |  |  |  |  | 4.3 | 10.4 | 85.4 | -6.1 |

'Below average' Inventory of raw materials is optimistic. Footnotes '@' and '\#' given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table 10: Assessment \& Expectation for level of Finished Goods Inventory
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Total response | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Below average | Above average | Average | Net response | Below average | Above average | Average | Net response |
| Q2:2016-17 | 723 | 6.7 | 15.8 | 77.5 | -9.0 | 7.1 | 12.1 | 80.8 | -5.0 |
| Q3:2016-17 | 1221 | 6.4 | 15.3 | 78.3 | -8.9 | 4.5 | 12.5 | 83.0 | -7.9 |
| Q4:2016-17 | 1244 | 7.3 | 16.6 | 76.1 | -9.3 | 6.5 | 11.6 | 81.9 | -5.1 |
| Q1:2017-18 | 1250 | 6.8 | 14.2 | 79.0 | -7.5 | 6.4 | 10.7 | 82.8 | -4.3 |
| Q2:2017-18 | 1141 | 7.1 | 15.9 | 77.0 | -8.8 | 6.0 | 11.6 | 82.4 | -5.6 |
| Q3:2017-18 |  |  |  |  |  | 6.2 | 10.0 | 83.8 | -3.8 |

'Below average' Inventory of finished goods is optimistic. Footnotes '@' and '\#' given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table 11: Assessment \& Expectations for Employment Outlook
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Total <br> response | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Decrease | No <br> change | Net <br> response | Increase | Decrease | No <br> change | Net <br> response |  |
| Q2:2016-17 | 723 | 14.5 | 7.7 | 77.8 | 6.8 | 15.8 | 7.7 | 76.5 | 8.1 |
| Q3:2016-17 | 1221 | 13.5 | 9.7 | 76.8 | 3.8 | 14.7 | 5.6 | 79.7 | 9.1 |
| Q4:2016-17 | 1244 | 15.9 | 9.3 | 74.9 | 6.6 | 12.1 | 6.9 | 81.0 | 5.2 |
| Q1:2017-18 | 1250 | 14.6 | 9.2 | 76.2 | 5.4 | 15.9 | 6.6 | 77.5 | 9.3 |
| Q2:2017-18 | 1141 | 15.5 | 8.2 | 76.3 | 7.3 | 15.2 | 6.5 | 78.3 | 8.7 |
| Q3:2017-18 |  |  |  |  |  | 15.8 | 5.3 | 78.9 | 10.4 |

'Increase' in employment is optimistic. Footnotes '@' and '\#' given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table 12: Assessment \& Expectation for Overall Financial Situation
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Total <br> response | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Worsen | No <br> change | Net <br> response | Better | Worsen | No <br> change | Net <br> response |  |
| Q2:2016-17 |  | 27.7 | 11.3 | 61.1 | 16.4 | 35.2 | 8.3 | 56.5 | 26.9 |
| Q3:2016-17 |  | 26.0 | 14.1 | 59.9 | 11.9 | 33.9 | 6.8 | 59.3 | 27.1 |
| Q4:2016-17 | 1244 | 30.6 | 13.6 | 55.9 | 17.0 | 34.1 | 9.5 | 56.4 | 24.6 |
| Q1:2017-18 | 1250 | 30.9 | 11.8 | 57.2 | 19.1 | 37.9 | 7.0 | 55.1 | 30.9 |
| Q2:2017-18 | 1141 | 29.0 | 13.2 | 57.7 | 15.8 | 35.6 | 7.7 | 56.6 | 27.9 |
| Q3:2017-18 |  |  |  |  |  | 35.3 | 6.6 | 58.1 | 28.7 |

'Better' overall financial situation is optimistic. Footnotes '@' and '\#' given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table 13: Assessment \& Expectation for Working Capital Finance Requirement
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Total <br> response | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Decrease | No <br> change | Net <br> response | Increase | Decrease | No <br> change | Net <br> response |  |
| Q2:2016-17 | 723 | 26.0 | 6.6 | 67.4 | 19.4 | 29.7 | 5.6 | 64.7 | 24.1 |
| Q3:2016-17 | 1221 | 28.9 | 6.9 | 64.3 | 22.0 | 28.1 | 4.1 | 67.8 | 24.1 |
| Q4:2016-17 | 1244 | 30.2 | 5.6 | 64.2 | 24.6 | 29.2 | 5.3 | 65.5 | 23.9 |
| Q1:2017-18 | 1250 | 29.3 | 5.7 | 65.0 | 23.6 | 29.4 | 5.1 | 65.5 | 24.3 |
| Q2:2017-18 | 1141 | 29.7 | 6.3 | 64.1 | 23.4 | 29.4 | 5.7 | 65.0 | 23.7 |
| Q3:2017-18 |  |  |  |  |  | 30.5 | 4.1 | 65.4 | 26.4 |

'Increase’ in working capital finance is optimistic. Footnotes ‘@’ and '\#' given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table 14: Assessment \& Expectation for Availability of Finance (from Internal Accruals)

| Quarter | Total response | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Improve | Worsen | $\begin{gathered} \text { No } \\ \text { change } \end{gathered}$ | Net response | Improve | Worsen | $\begin{gathered} \text { No } \\ \text { change } \end{gathered}$ | Net response |
| Q2:2016-17 | 723 | 21.0 | 8.5 | 70.5 | 12.5 | 25.9 | 5.8 | 68.3 | 20.1 |
| Q3:2016-17 | 1221 | 21.6 | 11.7 | 66.7 | 9.9 | 25.2 | 5.0 | 69.8 | 20.2 |
| Q4:2016-17 | 1244 | 25.6 | 10.3 | 64.1 | 15.3 | 25.4 | 8.0 | 66.6 | 17.4 |
| Q1:2017-18 | 1250 | 23.5 | 9.5 | 67.0 | 14.1 | 27.5 | 6.2 | 66.3 | 21.3 |
| Q2:2017-18 | 1141 | 23.2 | 9.5 | 67.3 | 13.7 | 26.8 | 6.4 | 66.9 | 20.4 |
| Q3:2017-18 |  |  |  |  |  | 25.8 | 5.6 | 68.6 | 20.2 |

'Improvement' in availability of finance is optimistic. Footnotes '@' and '\#' given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table 15: Assessment \& Expectation for Availability of Finance (from banks \& other sources)
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Total <br> response | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Worsen | No <br> change | Net <br> response | Improve | Worsen | No <br> change | Net <br> response |  |
| Q2:2016-17 | 723 | 18.3 | 5.6 | 76.1 | 12.7 | 21.7 | 5.5 | 72.7 | 16.2 |
| Q3:2016-17 | 1221 | 19.6 | 7.9 | 72.5 | 11.7 | 21.8 | 3.3 | 74.9 | 18.5 |
| Q4:2016-17 | 1244 | 21.3 | 7.6 | 71.1 | 13.7 | 22.5 | 5.6 | 71.9 | 16.9 |
| Q1:2017-18 | 1250 | 21.0 | 6.1 | 72.9 | 14.9 | 24.8 | 4.9 | 70.3 | 19.9 |
| Q2:2017-18 | 1141 | 19.8 | 6.1 | 74.1 | 13.8 | 21.5 | 4.6 | 73.9 | 17.0 |
| Q3:2017-18 |  |  |  |  |  | 18.6 | 4.5 | 77.0 | 14.1 |

'Improvement' in availability of finance is optimistic. Footnotes '@' and '\#' given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table 16: Assessment \& Expectation for Availability of Finance (from overseas, if applicable)
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Total <br> response | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Worsen | No <br> change | Net <br> response | Improve | Worsen | No <br> change | Net <br> response |  |
| Q2:2016-17 | 723 | 10.0 | 3.3 | 86.6 | 6.7 | 12.2 | 3.8 | 84.1 | 8.4 |
| Q3:2016-17 | 1221 | 9.1 | 4.8 | 86.1 | 4.3 | 10.3 | 2.0 | 87.7 | 8.3 |
| Q4:2016-17 | 1244 | 8.1 | 3.3 | 88.6 | 4.8 | 10.0 | 3.5 | 86.5 | 6.5 |
| Q1:2017-18 | 1250 | 9.5 | 3.7 | 86.8 | 5.8 | 9.8 | 2.8 | 87.4 | 7.0 |
| Q2:2017-18 | 1141 | 8.0 | 3.0 | 89.0 | 5.0 | 10.9 | 3.9 | 85.2 | 7.0 |
| Q3:2017-18 |  |  |  |  |  | 7.2 | 3.0 | 89.8 | 4.1 |

'Improvement' in availability of finance is optimistic. Footnotes '@' and '\#' given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table 17: Assessment \&Expectation for Cost of Finance
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Total <br> response | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Increase | No <br> change | Net <br> response | Decrease | Increase | No <br> change | Net <br> response |  |
| Q2:2016-17 |  | 9.4 | 17.3 | 73.3 | -7.9 | 9.9 | 17.4 | 72.6 | -7.5 |
| Q3:2016-17 |  | 12.9 | 16.1 | 71.1 | -3.2 | 9.4 | 16.9 | 73.8 | -7.5 |
| Q4:2016-17 | 1244 | 15.8 | 16.7 | 67.6 | -0.9 | 14.5 | 14.8 | 70.8 | -0.3 |
| Q1:2017-18 | 1250 | 13.6 | 14.8 | 71.6 | -1.2 | 12.9 | 15.4 | 71.7 | -2.5 |
| Q2:2017-18 | 1141 | 14.0 | 14.5 | 71.6 | -0.5 | 10.9 | 14.7 | 74.5 | -3.8 |
| Q3:2017-18 |  |  |  |  |  | 11.9 | 14.1 | 74.0 | -2.2 |

'Decrease' in cost of finance is optimistic. Footnotes '@' and '\#' given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table 18: Assessment \& Expectation for Cost of Raw Materials
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Total <br> response | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Increase | No <br> change | Net <br> response | Decrease | Increase | No <br> change | Net <br> response |  |
| Q2:2016-17 | 723 | 4.2 | 43.1 | 52.7 | -39.0 | 6.0 | 37.5 | 56.5 | -31.5 |
| Q3:2016-17 | 1221 | 6.4 | 44.6 | 48.9 | -38.2 | 5.5 | 37.4 | 57.1 | -32.0 |
| Q4:2016-17 | 1244 | 3.5 | 51.4 | 45.0 | -47.9 | 5.1 | 39.4 | 55.6 | -34.3 |
| Q1:2017-18 | 1250 | 5.1 | 47.2 | 47.8 | -42.1 | 4.1 | 42.0 | 54.0 | -37.9 |
| Q2:2017-18 | 1141 | 5.0 | 46.8 | 48.2 | -41.8 | 4.0 | 40.4 | 55.6 | -36.5 |
| Q3:2017-18 |  |  |  |  |  | 5.7 | 37.6 | 56.7 | -31.9 |

'Decrease' in cost of raw materials is optimistic. Footnotes '@' and '\#' given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table 19: Assessment \& Expectation for Selling Price
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Total response | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Increase | Decrease | No change | Net response | Increase | Decrease | No change | Net response |
| Q2:2016-17 | 723 | 16.5 | 14.5 | 69.0 | 2.0 | 19.8 | 9.7 | 70.5 | 10.1 |
| Q3:2016-17 | 1221 | 16.9 | 16.2 | 66.9 | 0.7 | 17.2 | 10.4 | 72.4 | 6.8 |
| Q4:2016-17 | 1244 | 21.4 | 13.0 | 65.6 | 8.4 | 16.8 | 10.9 | 72.3 | 5.9 |
| Q1:2017-18 | 1250 | 20.1 | 15.1 | 64.8 | 5.0 | 21.6 | 9.1 | 69.3 | 12.5 |
| Q2:2017-18 | 1141 | 16.1 | 16.2 | 67.6 | -0.1 | 18.9 | 11.0 | 70.2 | 7.9 |
| Q3:2017-18 |  |  |  |  |  | 17.5 | 10.6 | 71.9 | 7.0 |

[^3]Table 20: Assessment \& Expectation for Profit Margin
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Total <br> response | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Increase | Decrease | No <br> change | Net <br> response | Increase | Decrease | No <br> change | Net <br> response |  |
| Q2:2016-17 | 723 | 15.8 | 28.8 | 55.4 | -12.9 | 19.1 | 19.3 | 61.6 | -0.2 |  |
| Q3:2016-17 | 1221 | 15.3 | 28.3 | 56.4 | -13.0 | 19.5 | 19.4 | 61.2 | 0.1 |  |
| Q4:2016-17 | 1244 | 16.7 | 27.8 | 55.5 | -11.1 | 18.5 | 21.3 | 60.2 | -2.8 |  |
| Q1:2017-18 | 1250 | 15.7 | 28.2 | 56.0 | -12.5 | 20.3 | 19.2 | 60.4 | 1.1 |  |
| Q2:2017-18 | 1141 | 14.5 | 28.5 | 57.1 | -14.0 | 20.3 | 20.0 | 59.7 | 0.3 |  |
| Q3:2017-18 |  |  |  |  |  | 19.6 | 17.8 | 62.5 | 1.8 |  |

'Increase' in profit margin is optimistic. Footnotes '@' and '\#' given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table 21: Assessment \& Expectation for Overall Business Situation

| Quarter | Total response | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Better | Worsen | No change | Net response | Better | Worsen | No change | Net response |
| Q2:2016-17 | 723 | 31.4 | 14.0 | 54.6 | 17.4 | 41.2 | 7.7 | 51.1 | 33.5 |
| Q3:2016-17 | 1221 | 29.4 | 16.4 | 54.2 | 13.0 | 40.1 | 8.7 | 51.2 | 31.3 |
| Q4:2016-17 | 1244 | 36.3 | 14.3 | 49.5 | 22.0 | 39.4 | 11.5 | 49.1 | 27.9 |
| Q1:2017-18 | 1250 | 34.4 | 13.0 | 52.6 | 21.4 | 43.6 | 7.6 | 48.8 | 36.0 |
| Q2:2017-18 | 1141 | 31.7 | 14.4 | 53.9 | 17.3 | 42.7 | 9.0 | 48.4 | 33.7 |
| Q3:2017-18 |  |  |  |  |  | 42.9 | 6.0 | 51.1 | 36.9 |

'Better' Overall Business Situation is optimistic. Footnotes '@' and '\#' given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table 22: Assessment \& Expectation for Salary/Other Remuneration
(Percentage responses)

| Quarter | Total response | Assessment |  |  |  | Expectation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Increase | Decrease | No change | Net response | Increase | Decrease | No change | Net response |
| Q2:2016-17 | 723 | 35.8 | 3.0 | 61.2 | 32.8 | 30.0 | 3.1 | 66.9 | 26.9 |
| Q3:2016-17 | 1222 | 28.9 | 2.8 | 68.3 | 26.1 | 26.6 | 2.0 | 71.4 | 24.7 |
| Q4:2016-17 | 1244 | 30.0 | 2.7 | 67.3 | 27.3 | 25.0 | 3.3 | 71.8 | 21.7 |
| Q1:2017-18 | 1250 | 42.1 | 2.7 | 55.2 | 39.4 | 38.8 | 2.2 | 59.0 | 36.6 |
| Q2:2017-18 | 1141 | 36.7 | 2.2 | 61.2 | 34.5 | 34.5 | 2.5 | 63.0 | 32.0 |
| Q3:2017-18 |  |  |  |  |  | 25.9 | 2.0 | 72.1 | 23.9 |

'Increase in Salary / other remuneration' is optimistic. Footnotes '@' and '\#' given in Table 1 are applicable here.

Table 23: Business Expectations Index (BEI)

| Quarter | BEI-Assessment Quarter | BEI-Expectation Quarter |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Q2:2016-17 | 102.7 | 112.9 |
| Q3:2016-17 | 101.1 | 112.9 |
| Q4:2016-17 | 106.0 | 111.1 |
| Q1:2017-18 | 105.4 | 114.2 |
| Q2:2017-18 | 103.6 | 113.3 |
| Q3:2017-18 |  | 115.0 |


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ The survey responses are those of the respondents and are not necessarily shared by the Reserve Bank of India. The $78^{\text {th }}$ round (Q1:2017-18) survey results were released on August 2, 2017 on the RBI website.
    ${ }^{2}$ The Business Expectations Index (BEI) is a composite indicator calculated as a weighted (share of GVA of different industry group) net response of nine business indicators. The nine indicators considered for the computation of the BEI are: (1) overall business situation; (2) production; (3) order books; (4) inventory of raw material; (5) inventory of finished goods; (6) profit margin; (7) employment; (8) exports; and (9) capacity utilisation. It gives a snapshot of the business outlook in every quarter. BEI takes values between 0 and 200, and 100 is the threshold separating expansion from contraction.

[^1]:    ${ }^{3}$ Net Response (NR) is the difference of percentage of the respondents reporting optimism and that reporting pessimism. The range is -100 to 100. Any value greater than zero indicates expansion/optimism and any value less than zero indicates contraction/pessimism i.e., NR = (I - D); where, I is the percentage response of 'Increase/optimism', and D is the percentage response of 'Decrease/pessimism' and Eis the percentage response as 'no change/Equal'; I+D+E=100. For example, increase in production is optimism whereas decrease in cost of raw material is optimism.

[^2]:    'Increase' in exports is optimistic. Footnotes '@' and '\#' given in Table 1 are applicable here.

[^3]:    'Increase' in selling price is optimistic. Footnotes '@' and '\#' given in Table 1 are applicable here.

