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MONETARY POLICY STATEMENT FOR 2019-20

Seventh Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement, 2019-20

*Seventh Bi-monthly Monetary
Policy Statement, 2019-20
Resolution of the Monetary
Policy Committee (MPC)
Reserve Bank of India **

On the basis of an assessment of the current and evolving macroeconomic situation, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) at its meeting today (March 27, 2020) decided to:

- reduce the policy repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) by 75 basis points to 4.40 per cent from 5.15 per cent with immediate effect;
- accordingly, the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate stand reduced to 4.65 per cent from 5.40 per cent;
- further, consequent upon the widening of the LAF corridor as detailed in the accompanying Statement on Developmental and Regulatory Policies, the reverse repo rate under the LAF stands reduced by 90 basis points to 4.0 per cent.
- The MPC also decided to continue with the accommodative stance as long as it is necessary to revive growth and mitigate the impact of coronavirus (COVID-19) on the economy, while ensuring that inflation remains within the target.

These decisions are in consonance with the objective of achieving the medium-term target for consumer price index (CPI) inflation of 4 per cent within a band of +/- 2 per cent, while supporting growth.

The main considerations underlying the decision are set out in the statement below.

* Released on March 27, 2020.

Assessment

Global Economy

2. Global economic activity has come to a near standstill as COVID-19 related lockdowns and social distancing are imposed across a widening swathe of affected countries. Expectations of a shallow recovery in 2020 from 2019's decade low in global growth have been dashed. The outlook is now heavily contingent upon the intensity, spread and duration of the pandemic. There is a rising probability that large parts of the global economy will slip into recession.

3. Financial markets have become highly volatile from January onwards due to the outbreak of COVID-19. Panic sell-offs have resulted in wealth destruction in equity markets across advanced and emerging economies alike. In the former, flight to safety has pulled down government bond yields to record lows with some hardening in recent days. In the latter, the rush to exit has rendered fixed income markets illiquid and resulted in firming up of yields. Emerging and advanced economy currencies are experiencing severe depreciation pressure on a daily basis because of fire sales due to extreme risk aversion. At this point, only the US dollar remains safe haven in a highly uncertain outlook. Japanese yen and gold – the other two safe havens till the early part of March – have given way to a flight to cash. International crude prices initially traded with a softening bias from January in anticipation of demand weakening due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Production cut disagreements among key oil producers, however, set off retaliatory supply scale-ups and a price war that plunged international Brent crude prices to a low of US\$ 25 per barrel on March 18, 2020. These developments are likely to dampen inflation across advanced and emerging economies. Central banks and governments are in war mode, responding to the situation with several conventional and unconventional measures targeted at easing financial conditions to avoid a demand collapse and to prevent financial markets from freezing up due to illiquidity.

Domestic Economy

4. The second advance estimates of the National Statistics Office released in February 2020 implied real GDP growth of 4.7 per cent for Q4:2019-20 within the annual estimate of 5 per cent for the year as a whole. This is now at risk from the pandemic's impact on the economy. High frequency indicators suggest that private final consumption expenditure has been hit hardest, even as gross fixed capital formation has been in contraction since Q2:2019-20. On the supply side, the outlook for agriculture and allied activities appears to be the only silver lining, with foodgrains output at 292 million tonnes being 2.4 per cent higher than a year ago. A pick-up in manufacturing and electricity generation pulled industrial production into positive territory in January 2020 after intermittent contraction and/or lacklustre activity over the past five months; however, more data will need to be watched to assess whether the recent uptick will endure in the face of COVID-19. Meanwhile, most service sector indicators for January and February 2020 moderated or declined. Since then anecdotal evidence suggests that several services such as trade, tourism, airlines, the hospitality sector and construction have been further adversely impacted by the pandemic. Dislocations in casual and contract labour would result in losses of activity in other sectors as well.

5. Retail inflation, measured by the consumer price index, peaked in January 2020 and fell by a full percentage point in February 2020 to 6.6 per cent, as the ebbing of onion prices brought down food inflation from double digits in the preceding two months. Price pressures, however, remain firm across protein-rich items, edible oils and pulses; but the shock to demand from COVID-19 may weaken them going forward. While fuel inflation increased sharply in February on the back of the delayed domestic adjustment to international LPG prices, the plunge in international crude prices in March may bring a measure of relief to the extent it is allowed to pass

through. CPI inflation excluding food and fuel eased in February under the weight of softer prices of transport and communication, and personal care. Households' inflation expectations a year ahead softened by 20 bps in the March 2020 round of the Reserve Bank's survey.

6. Domestic financial conditions have tightened considerably, with equity markets facing massive sell-offs by foreign portfolio investors (FPIs). In the bond market too, yields have risen on sustained FPI selling, while redemption pressures, drop in trading activity and generalised risk aversion have pushed up yields to elevated levels in commercial paper, corporate bond and other fixed income segments. In the forex market, the Indian rupee (INR) has been under continuous downward pressure. Under these conditions, the Reserve Bank has endeavoured to keep financial markets liquid, stable and functioning normally. Systemic liquidity surplus, as reflected in net absorptions under the LAF, averaged ₹ 2.86 lakh crore in March (up to March 25, 2020). In addition, the Reserve Bank undertook unconventional operations in the form of auctions of what is called 'operation twist' involving the simultaneous sale of short-term government securities (of ₹ 28,276 crore) and purchase of long-term securities (of ₹ 40,000 crore), cumulatively injecting a net amount of ₹ 11,724 crore. The Reserve Bank also conducted five long term repo auctions of 1 year and 3 years tenors of a cumulative amount of ₹ 1.25 lakh crore so far to inject liquidity and improve monetary transmission. It also conducted two sell-buy swap auctions to inject cumulatively US dollar liquidity into the forex market to the tune of US\$ 2.71 billion on March 16 and 23. Open market purchase operations of ₹ 10,000 crore on March 20 and ₹ 15,000 crore each on March 24 and March 26 have been conducted to bolster liquidity and smoothen financial conditions.

7. In the external sector, merchandise exports expanded in February 2020 after posting six consecutive months of contraction. Import growth

also moved into positive territory after eight months of continuous decline. Consequently, the trade deficit widened marginally on a year-on-year basis although it was lower than its level a month ago. On March 12, the Reserve Bank released balance of payments data which showed the current account having moved to near balance in Q3:2019-20 with a deficit of only 0.2 per cent of GDP. On the financing side, net FDI inflows at US\$ 37.8 billion during April-January 2019-20 were substantially higher than a year ago. Portfolio investment recorded net outflows of US\$ 5.2 billion during 2019-20 (up to March 25), down from US\$ 6.6 billion a year ago. India's foreign exchange reserves reached a level of US\$ 487.2 billion on March 6, 2020 – an increase of US\$ 74.4 billion over their end-March 2019 level.

Outlook

8. In the sixth bi-monthly resolution of February 2020, CPI headline inflation was projected at 6.5 per cent for Q4:2019-20. The prints for January and February 2020 indicate that actual outcomes for the quarter are running 30 bps above projections, reflecting the onion price shock. Looking ahead, food prices may soften even further under the beneficial effects of the record foodgrains and horticulture production, at least till the onset of the usual summer uptick. Furthermore, the collapse in crude prices should work towards easing both fuel and core inflation pressures, depending on the level of the pass-through to retail prices. As a consequence of COVID-19, aggregate demand may weaken and ease core inflation further. Heightened volatility in financial markets could also have a bearing on inflation.

9. Turning to growth, apart from the continuing resilience of agriculture and allied activities, most other sectors of the economy will be adversely impacted by the pandemic, depending upon its intensity, spread and duration. If COVID-19 is prolonged and supply chain disruptions get accentuated, the global slowdown could deepen, with adverse implications for India. The slump in international crude prices could,

however, provide some relief in the form of terms of trade gains. Downside risks to growth arise from the spread of COVID-19 and prolonged lockdowns. Upside growth impulses are expected to emanate from monetary, fiscal and other policy measures and the early containment of COVID-19.

10. The MPC is of the view that macroeconomic risks, both on the demand and supply sides, brought on by the pandemic could be severe. The need of the hour is to do whatever is necessary to shield the domestic economy from the pandemic. Central banks across the world have responded with monetary and regulatory measures – both conventional and unconventional. Governments across the world have unleashed massive fiscal measures, including targeted health services support, to protect economic activity from the impact of the virus. To mitigate the economic difficulties arising out of the virus outbreak, the Government of India has announced a comprehensive package of ₹ 1.70 lakh crore, covering cash transfers and food security, for vulnerable sections of society, including farmers, migrant workers, urban and rural poor, differently abled persons and women. The MPC notes that the Reserve Bank has taken several measures to inject substantial liquidity in the system. Nonetheless, the priority is to undertake strong and purposeful action in order to minimise the adverse macroeconomic impact of the pandemic. It is in this context that the MPC unanimously votes for a sizable reduction in the policy repo rate, but with some differences in the quantum of reduction. Furthermore, the MPC also notes that the Reserve Bank has decided to undertake several measures to further improve liquidity, monetary transmission and credit flows to the economy and provide relief on debt servicing. It also underscores the need for all stakeholders to fight against the pandemic. Banks and other financial institutions should do all they can to keep credit flowing to economic agents facing financial stress on account of the isolation that the virus has

imposed. Market participants should work with regulators like the Reserve Bank and the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to ensure the orderly functioning of markets in their role of price discovery and financial intermediation. Strong fiscal measures are critical to deal with the situation.

11. All members voted for a reduction in the policy repo rate and maintaining the accommodative stance as long as it is necessary to revive growth and mitigate

the impact of COVID-19 on the economy, while ensuring that inflation remains within the target.

12. Dr. Ravindra H. Dholakia, Dr. Janak Raj, Dr. Michael Debabrata Patra and Shri Shaktikanta Das voted for a 75 bps reduction in the policy repo rate. Dr. Chetan Ghate and Dr. Pami Dua voted for a 50 bps reduction in the policy repo rate.

13. The minutes of the MPC's meeting will be published by April 13, 2020.

Statement on Developmental and Regulatory Policies

This Statement sets out various developmental and regulatory policies that directly address the stress in financial conditions caused by COVID-19. They consist of: (i) expanding liquidity in the system sizeably to ensure that financial markets and institutions are able to function normally in the face of COVID-related dislocations; (ii) reinforcing monetary transmission so that bank credit flows on easier terms are sustained to those who have been affected by the pandemic; (iii) easing financial stress caused by COVID-19 disruptions by relaxing repayment pressures and improving access to working capital; and (iv) improving the functioning of markets in view of the high volatility experienced with the onset and spread of the pandemic. The policy initiatives in this section should be read in conjunction with the MPC's decision on monetary policy actions and stance in its resolution.

I. Liquidity Management

As stated earlier, the first set of measures is intended to ensure that adequate liquidity is available to all constituents so that COVID-19 related liquidity constraints are eased.

1. Targeted Long Term Repos Operations (TLTROs)

The onset and rapid propagation of COVID-19 in India has ignited large sell-offs in the domestic equity, bond and forex markets. With the intensification of redemption pressures, liquidity premia on instruments such as corporate bonds, commercial paper and debentures have surged. Combined with the thinning of trading activity with the COVID outbreak, financial conditions for these instruments, which are used, inter alia, to access working capital in the face of the slowdown in bank credit, have also tightened. In order to mitigate their adverse effects on economic activity leading to pressures on cash flows, it has been decided that the Reserve Bank will conduct auctions of targeted term repos of up to three years tenor of appropriate sizes for a total amount of up to

₹ 1,00,000 crore at a floating rate linked to the policy repo rate.

Liquidity availed under the scheme by banks has to be deployed in investment grade corporate bonds, commercial paper, and non-convertible debentures over and above the outstanding level of their investments in these bonds as on March 27, 2020. Banks shall be required to acquire up to fifty per cent of their incremental holdings of eligible instruments from primary market issuances and the remaining fifty per cent from the secondary market, including from mutual funds and non-banking finance companies. Investments made by banks under this facility will be classified as held to maturity (HTM) even in excess of 25 per cent of total investment permitted to be included in the HTM portfolio. Exposures under this facility will also not be reckoned under the large exposure framework.

The first TLTRO auction will be held today (March 27, 2020). Following a review of the outcome of this auction, the subsequent TLTRO auctions will be announced. Details about this facility are being issued separately.

2. Cash Reserve Ratio

- a. Liquidity in the banking system remains ample, as reflected in absorption of surpluses from the banking system under reverse repo operations of the LAF of the order of ₹ 2.86 lakh crore on a daily average basis during March 1-25, 2020. It is observed, however, that the distribution of this liquidity is highly asymmetrical across the financial system, and starkly so within the banking system.

As a one-time measure to help banks tide over the disruption caused by COVID-19, it has been decided to reduce the cash reserve ratio (CRR) of all banks by 100 basis points to 3.0 per cent of net demand and time liabilities (NDTL) with effect from the reporting fortnight beginning

March 28, 2020. This reduction in the CRR would release primary liquidity of about ₹ 1,37,000 crore uniformly across the banking system in proportion to liabilities of constituents rather than in relation to holdings of excess SLR. This dispensation will be available for a period of one year ending on March 26, 2021.

- b. Furthermore, taking cognisance of hardships faced by banks in terms of social distancing of staff and consequent strains on reporting requirements, it has been decided to reduce the requirement of minimum daily CRR balance maintenance from 90 per cent to 80 per cent effective from the first day of the reporting fortnight beginning March 28, 2020. This is a one-time dispensation available up to June 26, 2020.

3. Marginal Standing Facility

Under the marginal standing facility (MSF), banks can borrow overnight at their discretion by dipping up to 2 per cent into the Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR). In view of the exceptionally high volatility in domestic financial markets which bring in phases of liquidity stress and to provide comfort to the banking system, it has been decided to increase the limit of 2 per cent to 3 per cent with immediate effect. This measure will be applicable up to June 30, 2020. This is intended to provide comfort to the banking system by allowing it to avail an additional ₹ 1,37,000 crore of liquidity under the LAF window in times of stress at the reduced MSF rate announced in the MPC's resolution.

These three measures relating to TLTRO, CRR and MSF will inject a total liquidity of ₹ 3.74 lakh crore to the system.

4. Widening of the Monetary Policy Rate Corridor

In view of persistent excess liquidity, it has been decided to widen the existing policy rate corridor from 50 bps to 65 bps. Under the new corridor, the reverse repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF)

would be 40 bps lower than the policy repo rate. The marginal standing facility (MSF) rate would continue to be 25 bps above the policy repo rate.

II. Regulation and Supervision

Alongside liquidity measures, it is important that efforts are undertaken to mitigate the burden of debt servicing brought about by disruptions on account of the fall-out of the COVID-19 pandemic. Such efforts, in turn, will prevent the transmission of financial stress to the real economy, and will ensure the continuity of viable businesses and provide relief to borrowers in these extraordinarily troubled times.

5. Moratorium on Term Loans

All commercial banks (including regional rural banks, small finance banks and local area banks), co-operative banks, all-India Financial Institutions, and NBFCs (including housing finance companies and micro-finance institutions) ("lending institutions") are being permitted to allow a moratorium of three months on payment of instalments in respect of all term loans outstanding as on March 1, 2020. Accordingly, the repayment schedule and all subsequent due dates, as also the tenor for such loans, may be shifted across the board by three months.

6. Deferment of Interest on Working Capital Facilities

In respect of working capital facilities sanctioned in the form of cash credit/overdraft, lending institutions are being permitted to allow a deferment of three months on payment of interest in respect of all such facilities outstanding as on March 1, 2020. The accumulated interest for the period will be paid after the expiry of the deferment period.

In respect of paragraphs 5 and 6 above, the moratorium/deferment is being provided specifically to enable the borrowers to tide over the economic fallout from COVID-19. Hence, the same will not be treated as change in terms and conditions of loan agreements

due to financial difficulty of the borrowers and, consequently, will not result in asset classification downgrade. The lending institutions may accordingly put in place a Board approved policy in this regard.

7. Easing of Working Capital Financing

In respect of working capital facilities sanctioned in the form of cash credit/overdraft, lending institutions may recalculate drawing power by reducing margins and/or by reassessing the working capital cycle for the borrowers. Such changes in credit terms permitted to the borrowers to specifically tide over the economic fallout from COVID-19 will not be treated as concessions granted due to financial difficulties of the borrower, and consequently, will not result in asset classification downgrade.

In respect of paragraphs 5, 6 and 7, the rescheduling of payments will not qualify as a default for the purposes of supervisory reporting and reporting to credit information companies (CICs) by the lending institutions. CICs shall ensure that the actions taken by lending institutions pursuant to the above announcements do not adversely impact the credit history of the beneficiaries.

8. Deferment of Implementation of Net Stable Funding Ratio (NSFR)

As part of reforms undertaken in the years following the global financial crisis, the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS) had introduced the Net Stable Funding Ratio (NSFR) which reduces funding risk by requiring banks to fund their activities with sufficiently stable sources of funding over a time horizon of a year in order to mitigate the risk of future funding stress. As per the prescribed timeline, banks in India were required to maintain NSFR of 100 per cent from April 1, 2020. It has now been decided to defer the implementation of NSFR by six months from April 1, 2020 to October 1, 2020.

9. Deferment of Last Tranche of Capital Conservation Buffer

The capital conservation buffer (CCB) is designed to ensure that banks build up capital buffers during normal times (i.e., outside periods of stress) which can be drawn down as losses are incurred during a stressed period. As per Basel standards, the CCB was to be implemented in tranches of 0.625 per cent and the transition to full CCB of 2.5 per cent was set to be completed by March 31, 2019. It was subsequently decided to defer the implementation of the last tranche of 0.625 per cent of the CCB from March 31, 2019 to March 31, 2020. Considering the potential stress on account of COVID-19, it has been decided to further defer the implementation of the last tranche of 0.625 per cent of the CCB from March 31, 2020 to September 30, 2020. Consequently, the pre-specified trigger for loss absorption through conversion/write-down of Additional Tier 1 instruments (PNCPS and PDI) shall remain at 5.5 per cent of risk-weighted assets (RWAs) and will rise to 6.125 per cent of RWAs on September 30, 2020.

III. Financial Markets

The decision in respect of financial markets is essentially of a developmental nature, intended to improve depth and price discovery in the forex market segments by reducing arbitrage between onshore and offshore markets. This measure assumes greater importance in the context of the increased volatility of the rupee caused by the impact of COVID-19 on currency markets.

10. Permitting Banks to Deal in Offshore Non-Deliverable Rupee Derivative Markets (Offshore NDF Rupee Market)

The offshore Indian Rupee (INR) derivative market - the Non-Deliverable Forward (NDF) market - has

been growing rapidly in recent times. At present, Indian banks are not permitted to participate in this market, although the benefits of their participation in the NDF market have been widely recognised. All aspects of the issue have been examined in detail and a consensus has emerged in RBI that the time is apposite to remove segmentation between the onshore and offshore markets and improve efficiency

of price discovery. Accordingly, it has been decided, in consultation with the Government, to permit banks in India which operate International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) Banking Units (IBUs) to participate in the NDF market with effect from June 1, 2020. Banks may participate through their branches in India, their foreign branches or through their IBUs. Final directions are being issued today.

MONETARY POLICY STATEMENT FOR 2019-20

Monetary Policy Report - April 2020

I. Macroeconomic Outlook

The global macroeconomic outlook is overcast with the COVID-19 pandemic, with massive dislocations in global production, supply chains, trade and tourism. Financial markets across the world are experiencing extreme volatility; global commodity prices, especially of crude oil, have declined sharply. COVID-19 would impact economic activity in India directly due to lockdowns, and through second round effects operating through global trade and growth. The impact of COVID-19 on inflation is ambiguous, with a possible decline in food prices likely to be offset by potential cost-push increases in prices of non-food items due to supply disruptions.

As this Monetary Policy Report (MPR) goes for release, the global macroeconomic outlook is overcast with the COVID-19 pandemic. With over 12 lakh confirmed infections and over 67,000 deaths across 211 countries as of April 7, 2020 and counting, the sheer scale and speed of the unfolding human tragedy is overwhelming. The disruption of economic activity in a wide swathe of affected countries is set to intensify in the face of headwinds in the form of massive dislocations in global production, supply chains, trade and tourism. Global output is now seen as contracting in 2020. Financial markets across the world are experiencing extreme volatility: equity markets recorded sharp sell-offs, with volatility touching levels seen during the global financial crisis; flights to safety have taken down sovereign bond yields to record lows; risk spreads have widened; and financial conditions have tightened. Global commodity prices, especially of crude oil, have also declined sharply in anticipation of weakening global demand on the one hand, and the failed negotiations of the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and Russia, on the other.

Many central banks have eased monetary, liquidity and regulatory policies to support domestic demand, including through emergency off-cycle meetings. Bilateral swap lines between some central banks that were deployed during the global financial crisis have been activated. G7 finance ministers and central bank governors have stated that they stand ready to cooperate further on timely and effective measures. G20 finance ministers and central bank governors have committed to use all available policy tools to deal with COVID-19. G20 Leaders have resolved to do whatever it takes to overcome the pandemic. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank Group are making available US\$ 50 billion and US\$ 14 billion, respectively, through various financing facilities to their membership to help them respond to the crisis.

Turning to the domestic economy, India has not been spared from the exponential spread of COVID-19 and by April 7, more than 4,700 cases had been reported. While efforts are being mounted on a war footing to arrest its spread, COVID-19 would impact economic activity in India directly through domestic lockdown. Second round effects would operate through a severe slowdown in global trade and growth. More immediately, spillovers are being transmitted through finance and confidence channels to domestic financial markets. These effects and their interactions would inevitably accentuate the growth slowdown, which started in Q1:2018-19 and continued through H2:2019-20. Meanwhile, headline inflation stayed above the upper tolerance band of the inflation target band during December 2019-February 2020, led by a spike in vegetable prices. While it has peaked and vegetable prices are on the ebb, the impact of COVID-19 on inflation is ambiguous relative to that on growth, with a possible decline in prices of food items being offset by potential cost-push increases in prices of non-food items due to supply disruptions.

* Released on April 09, 2020.

Monetary Policy Committee: October 2019-March 2020

During October 2019-March 2020, the monetary policy committee (MPC) met four times. The meeting scheduled for March 31, April 1 and 3, 2020 was advanced to March 24, 26 and 27, 2020. In its October 2019 meeting, the MPC had noted that the continuing slowdown warranted intensified efforts to restore the growth momentum. With inflation expected to remain below target in the remaining period of 2019-20 and Q1:2020-21, the MPC took the view that policy space could be used to address growth concerns within the flexible inflation targeting mandate. Accordingly, it voted to reduce the policy repo rate by 25 basis points (bps) to 5.15 per cent (5 members voted for a reduction of 25 bps and one member voted for a reduction of 40 bps), and committed to continue with an accommodative stance as long as necessary to revive growth, while ensuring that inflation remained within the target.

The MPC decided to hold the policy rate unchanged in its December 2019 and February 2020 meetings. While domestic demand conditions weakened further in the run-up to these meetings, inflation rose sharply and breached the upper tolerance level of the mandated inflation band in November and December 2019. Given the evolving growth-inflation dynamics, the MPC felt it appropriate to maintain *status quo*, although it voted to persevere with the accommodative stance as long as necessary to revive growth, given the space available for future policy action.

In its off-cycle meeting in March, the MPC noted that macroeconomic risks brought on by the pandemic could be severe, both on the demand and supply sides, and stressed upon the need to do whatever is necessary to shield the domestic economy from the pandemic. The MPC reduced the policy repo rate by 75 bps to 4.4 per cent (4 members voted for a reduction

of 75 bps and 2 members voted for a reduction of 50 bps). During February-March 2020, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) also undertook several measures to further improve liquidity, monetary transmission and credit flows to the economy, and provide relief on debt servicing (Chapter IV).

The MPC's voting pattern reflects the differences in individual members' assessments, expectations and policy preferences, as also reflected in MPCs in other central banks (Table I.1).

Macroeconomic Outlook

Chapters II and III analyse macroeconomic developments during October 2019-March 2020 and explain the deviations of inflation and growth outcomes from projections. Turning to the outlook, the evolution of key macroeconomic and financial variables over the past six months warrants revisions in the baseline assumptions (Table I.2).

First, international crude oil prices (Indian basket) have fluctuated in a wide range since the October 2019 MPR. These prices initially increased during late December 2019 and early January 2020

Table I.1: Monetary Policy Committees and Voting Patterns

Country	Policy Meetings: October 2019 - March 2020		
	Total Meetings	Meetings with Full Consensus	Meetings with Dissents
Brazil	4	4	0
Chile	5	4	1
Colombia	4	4	0
Czech Republic	5	2	3
Hungary	5	5	0
Israel	4	0	4
Japan	4	0	4
South Africa	3	2	1
Sweden	3	2	1
Thailand	5	3	2
UK	6	3	3
US	5	3	2

Sources: Central bank websites.

Table I.2: Baseline Assumptions for Projections

Indicator	MPR October 2019	MPR April 2020
Crude Oil (Indian basket)	US\$ 62.6 per barrel during H2: 2019-20	US\$ 35 per barrel during 2020-21
Exchange rate	₹ 71.3/US\$	₹ 75/US\$
Monsoon	10 per cent above long period average for 2019	Normal for 2020
Global growth	3.2 per cent in 2019 3.5 per cent in 2020	Contraction in 2020
Fiscal deficit (per cent of GDP)	To remain within BE 2019-20 Centre: 3.3 Combined: 5.9	To remain within BE 2020-21 Centre: 3.5 Combined: 6.1
Domestic macroeconomic/ structural policies during the forecast period	No major change	No major change

- Notes:**
1. The Indian basket of crude oil represents a derived numeraire comprising sour grade (Oman and Dubai average) and sweet grade (Brent) crude oil.
 2. The exchange rate path assumed here is for the purpose of generating the baseline projections and does not indicate any 'view' on the level of the exchange rate. The Reserve Bank of India is guided by the objective of containing excessive volatility in the foreign exchange market and not by any specific level of and/or band around the exchange rate.
 3. BE: Budget estimates.
 4. Combined fiscal deficit refers to that of the Centre and States taken together.

Sources: RBI estimates; Budget documents; and IMF.

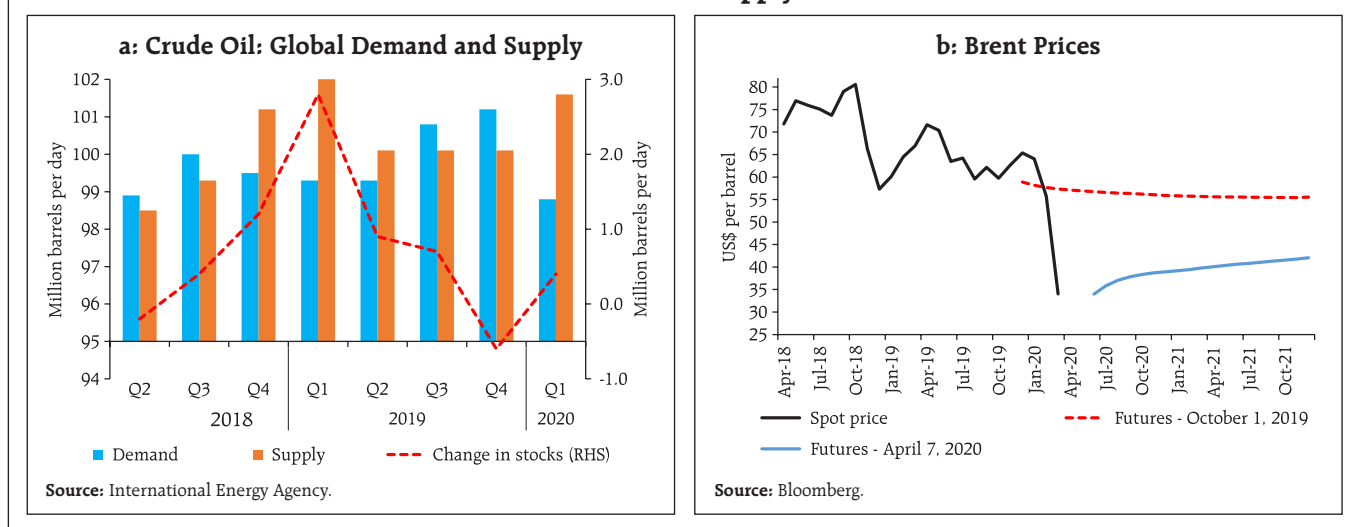
to around US\$ 70 per barrel, triggered by US-Iran tensions. They subsequently softened, however, to

reach US\$ 51 by early March in anticipation of lower global demand following the outbreak of COVID-19 and its rapid geographical spread. Brent prices crashed to US\$ 32 on March 9, 2020 following Saudi Arabia's decision to cut prices and increase production over the failure to reach an agreement with Russia on production cuts. Brent fell further to US\$ 23 on March 30, 2020 while US crude prices dipped briefly below US\$ 20. Brent rebounded to US\$ 34 per barrel on April 3. Given the current demand-supply assessment, the baseline scenario assumes crude oil prices (Indian basket) to average around US\$ 35 per barrel during 2020-21 (Chart I.1).

Second, the nominal exchange rate (the Indian rupee or INR *vis-à-vis* the US dollar) exhibited sizable two-way movements during October-December 2019. The INR came under intensified and sustained depreciation pressures beginning mid-January, reflecting a generalised weakening of emerging market currencies amidst flights to safety. Accordingly, the baseline assumes an average of INR 75 per US dollar to reflect these recent developments.

Third, even though uncertainties relating to US-China trade relations and Brexit have receded, the COVID-19 pandemic has taken over. This has

Chart I.1: Crude Oil: Demand-Supply Balance and Prices

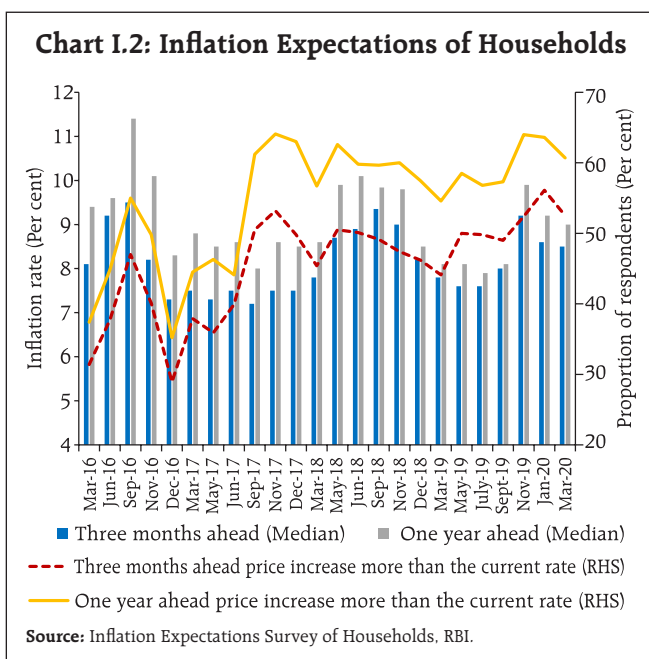


cast a shadow on the macroeconomic outlook, with global supply chains, trade, tourism, and the hotel industry being severely affected. The World Trade Organisation's (WTO) goods and services trade barometers indicate that world trade volume growth weakened in early 2020; it is expected to be debilitated further by the adverse impact of COVID-19. The IMF expects that the contraction in global output in 2020 could be as bad as or worse than in 2009. The depth of the recession and the pace of recovery in 2021 would depend on the speed of containment of the pandemic and the efficacy of monetary and fiscal policy actions by various countries. The slowdown could be more protracted in dire scenarios in which the duration of COVID-19 extends longer. The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) estimates suggest that annual global gross domestic product (GDP) growth could be lower by up to 2 percentage points for each month in which strict containment measures continue. If the shutdown continues for three months with no offsetting factors, annual GDP growth could be between 4-6 percentage points lower than it otherwise might have been.

1.1 The Outlook for Inflation

Headline consumer price index (CPI) inflation breached the upper tolerance band of the target in December 2019 and peaked in January 2020, before ebbing prices of vegetables, fruits and petroleum products produced a downward shift of 100 bps in February. The trajectory of inflation in the near-term is likely to be conditioned by the pace of reversal of the spike in vegetables prices, the dispersion of inflationary pressures across other food prices, the incidence of one-off cost-push effects on various elements of core inflation and especially, the evolution of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Looking ahead, three months and one year ahead median inflation expectations of urban households softened by 10 bps and 20 bps, respectively, in the

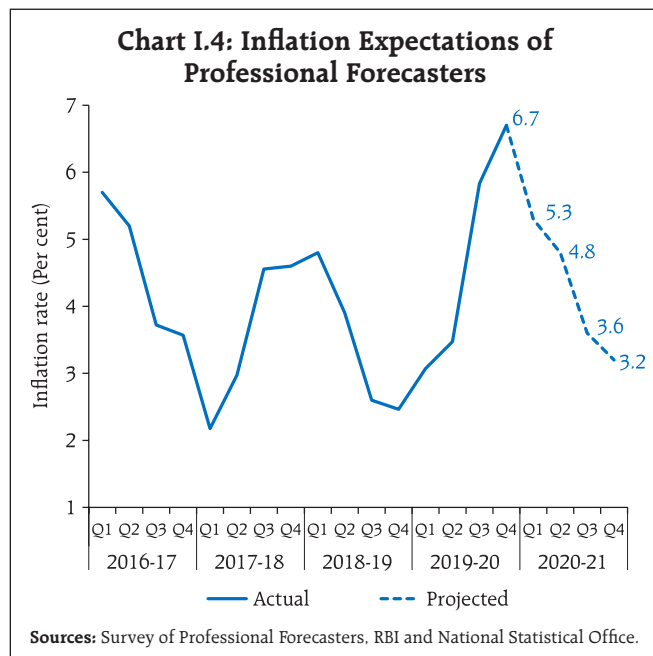
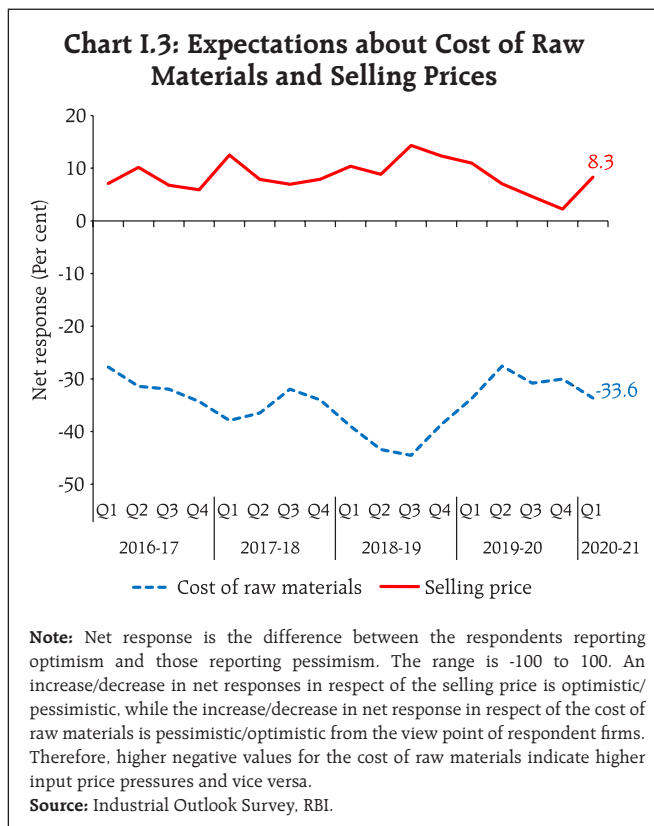


March 2020 round of the survey conducted by the RBI¹. The proportion of respondents expecting the general price level to increase by more than the current rate also decreased for both three months and one year ahead horizons *vis-à-vis* the January 2020 round (Chart I.2). Although largely adaptive, inflation expectations of households and firms can shape future inflation through price and wage setting behaviour. According to the Reserve Bank's consumer confidence survey for March 2020, inflation expectations moderated over the previous round².

Manufacturing firms polled in the January-March 2020 round of the Reserve Bank's industrial outlook survey expected an increase in selling prices as well as in the cost of raw materials in Q1:2020-21; nonetheless, pricing power of firms is expected to remain weak (Chart I.3)³. Purchasing managers'

¹ The Reserve Bank's inflation expectations survey of households is conducted in 18 cities and the results of the March 2020 survey undertaken during February 27– March 7, 2020 are based on responses from 5,912 households.

² The Reserve Bank's consumer confidence survey is conducted in 13 major cities and the results of the March 2020 round undertaken during February 27-March 7, 2020 are based on responses from 5,365 respondents.



surveys for manufacturing and services reported moderation in the rate of increase in input and output prices for March 2020.

Professional forecasters surveyed by the Reserve Bank in March 2020 expected CPI inflation to ease from 6.6 per cent in February 2020 to 5.3 per cent in Q1:2020-21 and 3.2 per cent by Q4:2020-21 (Chart I.4)⁴.

Thus, an array of forward-looking indicators is pointing to a much softer inflation trajectory. Looking ahead, the balance of inflation risks is slanted even further to the downside. First, food prices may soften under the beneficial effects of the record foodgrains and horticulture production, at least till the onset of the usual summer uptick. Second, the collapse in

crude prices should work towards easing inflationary pressures, depending on the level of the pass-through to retail prices. All these signals are, however, heavily conditioned by the depth, spread and duration of COVID-19 and shifts in any of these characteristics of the pandemic can produce drastic changes in the outlook. In these conditions, forecasts are hazardous as they are subject to large revisions with every incoming data on the pandemic. The RBI Act, however, enjoins the Reserve Bank to publish and explain in the MPR, *inter alia*, the forecasts of inflation for 6-18 months from the date of its publication. Therefore, taking into account initial conditions, signals from forward-looking surveys and estimates from time series and structural models, CPI inflation is tentatively projected to ease from 4.8 per cent in Q1:2020-21 to 4.4 per cent in Q2, 2.7 per cent in Q3 and 2.4 per cent in Q4, with the caveat that in the prevailing high uncertainty, aggregate demand may weaken further than currently anticipated and ease core inflation further, while supply bottlenecks could exacerbate pressures more than expected. *Per contra*, a quick containment of COVID-19 could lead to faster recovery and, therefore, firmer inflation pressures. Given the lockdown, the

³ The results of the January-March 2020 round of the industrial outlook survey (launched on January 30, 2020) are based on 860 responses received till March 18, 2020.

⁴ 25 panellists participated in the March 2020 round of the Reserve Bank's survey of professional forecasters, conducted during March 6-19, 2020.

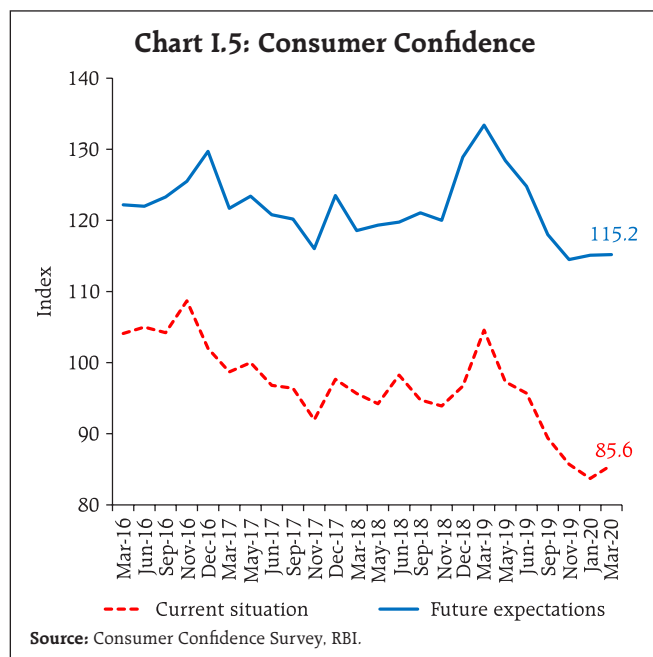
compilation of the CPI for March and the following few months by the National Statistical Office could also become challenging. For 2021-22, assuming a normal monsoon and no major exogenous or policy shocks, structural model estimates indicate that inflation could move in a range of 3.6-3.8 per cent.

1.2 The Outlook for Growth

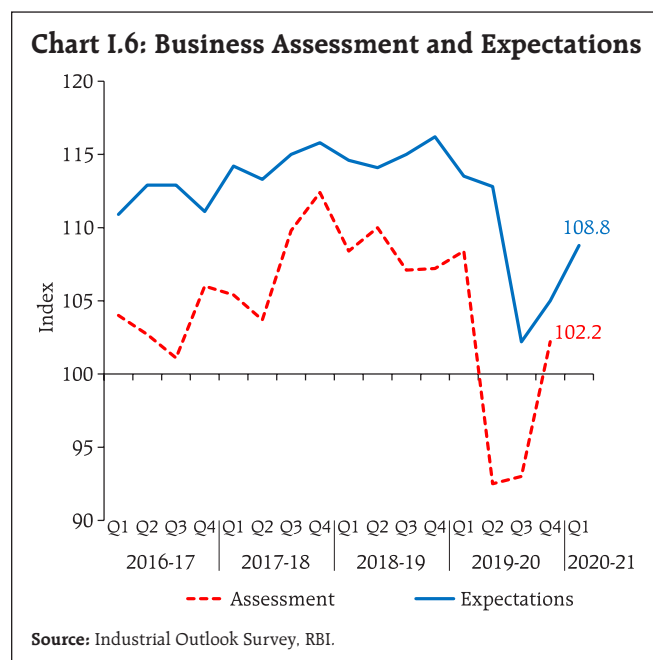
Prior to the outbreak of COVID-19, the outlook for growth for 2020-21 was looking up. First, the bumper *rabi* harvest and higher food prices during 2019-20 provided conducive conditions for the strengthening of rural demand. Second, the transmission of past reductions in the policy rate to bank lending rates has been improving, with favourable implications for both consumption and investment demand. Third, reductions in the goods and services tax (GST) rates, corporate tax rate cuts in September 2019 and measures to boost rural and infrastructure spending were directed at boosting domestic demand more generally. The COVID-19 pandemic has drastically altered this outlook. The global economy is expected to slump into recession in 2020, as post-COVID projections indicate. The sharp reduction in international crude oil prices, if sustained, could improve the country's terms of trade, but the gain from this channel is not expected to offset the drag from the shutdown and loss of external demand.

Turning to key messages from forward-looking surveys, the March 2020 round of the Reserve Bank's survey showed that consumer confidence for the year ahead was expected to remain around its level recorded in the previous survey round in January 2020 (Chart I.5). However, an important caveat to the forward-looking surveys presented in this section is that they were completed before the nation-wide lockdown effective March 25.

Optimism in the manufacturing sector for the quarter ahead had improved in the January-March



2020 round of the Reserve Bank's industrial outlook survey, reflecting expectations of higher production, order books, capacity utilisation, employment conditions, exports and overall business situation (Chart I.6). In view of the intensification of COVID-19, a quick survey with select parameters was specially conducted during March 18-20 to capture business



sentiments. From the limited responses received, a considerable worsening of the key demand indicators is seen in the outlook for Q1:2020-21.

Surveys by other agencies (conducted prior to the intensification of COVID-19) indicated optimism on future business expectations (Table I.3). According to the purchasing managers' surveys for March 2020, one year ahead business expectations of firms in manufacturing slumped to its weakest level, driven by fears of prolonged disruption from COVID-19. Business expectations of firms in the services sector also fell.

Professional forecasters polled in the March 2020 round of the Reserve Bank's survey (conducted during March 6-19 before the announcement of the nationwide lockdown) expected real GDP growth to recover from 4.6 per cent in Q4:2019-20 to 6.1 per cent in Q4:2020-21 (Chart I.7 and Table I.4).

Overall, apart from the continuing resilience of agriculture and allied activities, other sectors of the economy will be adversely impacted by the pandemic, depending upon its intensity, spread and duration.

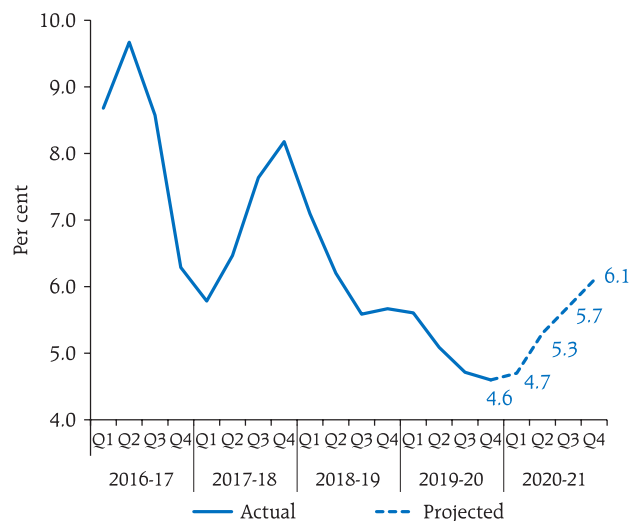
Table I.3: Business Expectations Surveys

Item	NCAER Business Confidence Index (February 2020)	FICCI Overall Business Confidence Index (January 2020)	Dun and Bradstreet Composite Business Optimism Index (March 2020)	CII Business Confidence Index (March 2020)
Current level of the index	111.2	59.0	63.0	53.4
Index as per previous survey	103.1	55.0	56.4	49.4
% change (q-o-q) sequential	7.9	7.3	11.7	8.1
% change (y-o-y)	-12.4	-2.2	-14.6	-18.1

Notes:

1. NCAER: National Council of Applied Economic Research.
2. FICCI: Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry.
3. CII: Confederation of Indian Industry.

Chart I.7: Professional Forecasters' Projection of Real GDP Growth



Sources: Survey of Professional Forecasters, RBI and National Statistical Office.

Relatively modest upsides are expected to emanate from monetary, fiscal and other policy measures and the early containment of COVID-19, if that occurs. Such uncertainties make the forecasting of inflation and growth highly challenging (Box I.1).

Table I.4: Projections - Professional Forecasters

(Per cent)

Median Projections of Professional Forecasters	2019-20	2020-21
Inflation, Q4 (y-o-y)	6.7	3.2
Real GDP growth	5.0	5.5
Gross domestic saving (per cent of GNDI)	29.4	29.5
Gross capital formation (per cent of GDP)	30.0	30.0
Credit growth of scheduled commercial banks	7.2	9.3
Combined gross fiscal deficit (per cent of GDP)	6.8	6.5
Central government gross fiscal deficit (per cent of GDP)	3.8	3.6
Repo rate (end-period)	5.15	4.65
Yield on 91-days treasury bills (end-period)	4.9	4.7
Yield on 10-year central government securities (end-period)	6.2	6.1
Overall balance of payments (US\$ billion)	49.8	40.0
Merchandise exports growth	-2.9	-0.6
Merchandise imports growth	-7.2	-2.9
Current account balance (per cent of GDP)	-1.0	-0.7

Note: GNDI: Gross National Disposable Income.

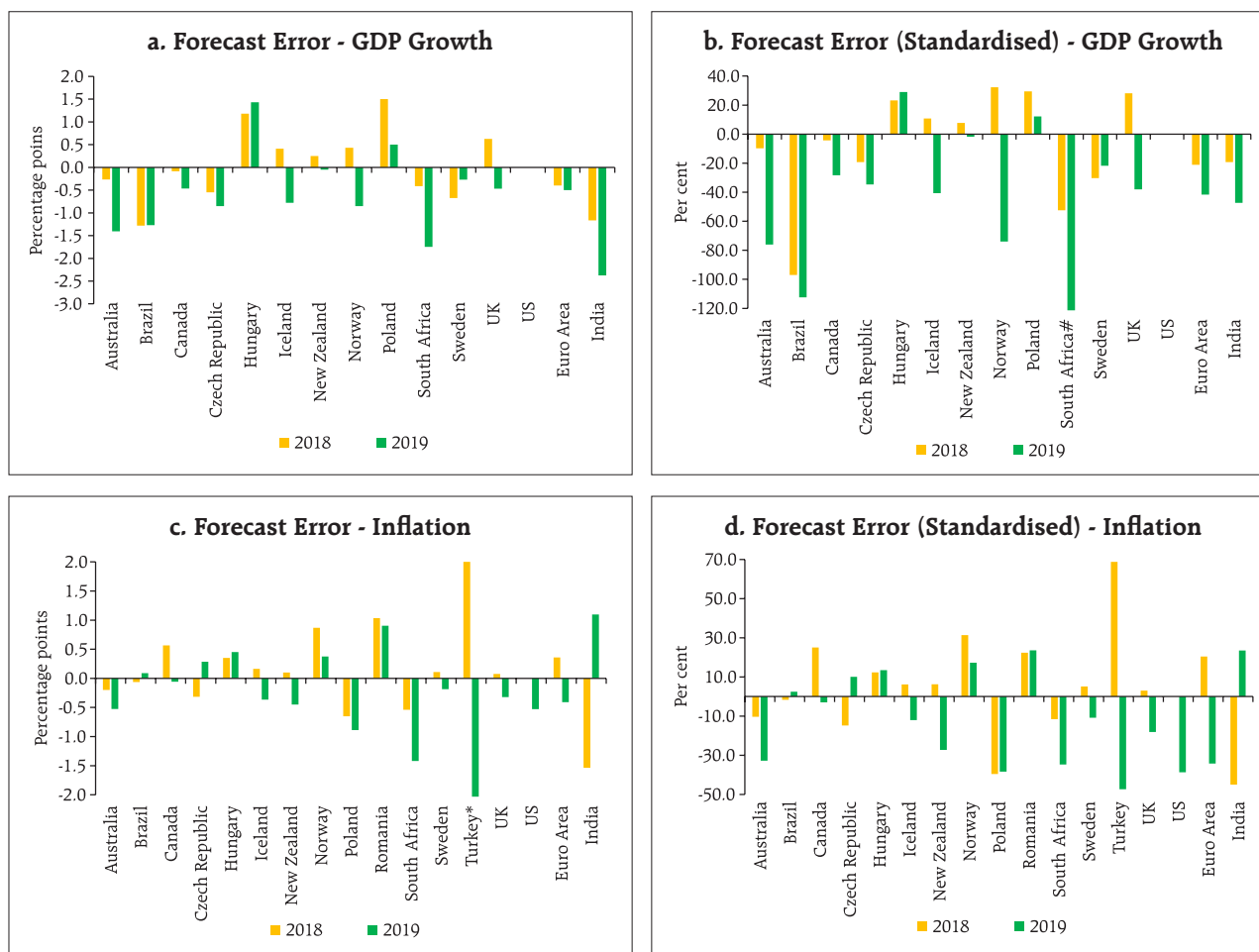
Source: Survey of Professional Forecasters (March 2020 round, conducted during March 6-19, 2020).

Box I.1: Forecasting Under Uncertainty in a Cyclical Downturn

Monetary policy actions impact output and inflation with long and variable lags. Hence, timely and reliable forecasts of output and inflation are of critical importance. Domestic and global shocks to key conditioning variables such as global crude oil prices, global trade and growth, the exchange rate, the monsoon outturn and the rising frequency of their visitations make forecasting a

challenging task, however, especially around the turning points. In an analysis of inflation and GDP growth forecasts of 17 select central banks for 2018 and 2019, most of them, including the RBI, were initially optimistic about economic activity (*i.e.*, negative forecast errors)⁵. The standardised forecast errors (*i.e.*, errors divided by the actual growth rate/inflation) were comparable (Chart I.1.1).

Chart I.1.1: Growth and Inflation Forecast Performance



Note: Forecast Error (Standardised) is forecast error as percentage of actual GDP growth/inflation of the country.

*: 15.4 percentage points in 2018 and (-) 4.9 percentage points in 2019; #: (-)1145 per cent in 2019.

Sources: Respective central banks' websites; and RBI staff estimates.

(contd.)

⁵ Apart from the RBI, the analysis covers the central banks of Australia, Brazil, Canada, Czech Republic, Hungary, Iceland, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Romania, South Africa, Sweden, Turkey, UK, US and Euro area. For Romania and Turkey, the analysis is restricted to inflation forecasts in the absence of information on GDP growth forecasts. The focus of the analysis is on one-year ahead forecast errors (actual outturn less the forecast); therefore, the forecasts for the years 2018 and 2019 made in the last quarter of 2017 and 2018, respectively, are considered. For the RBI, the forecasts for the financial years 2018-19 and 2019-20 available in the February 2018 and February 2019 policy statements, respectively, are taken.

Panel regression results indicate that global growth surprises have been an important factor underlying domestic growth forecast errors; crude oil price surprises have a negative impact, although not significant (Equation 1). However, inflation forecast errors seem to be more due to country-specific idiosyncratic factors - domestic growth forecast errors as well as crude oil price surprises are not statistically significant (Equation 2). The constant term is statistically insignificant in both the regressions, suggesting that the forecast errors were unbiased, once the global growth and crude oil surprises were controlled for.

$$y_fe_{it} = 0.18 + 1.04 yw_s_t - 0.006 doil_{it} \quad \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

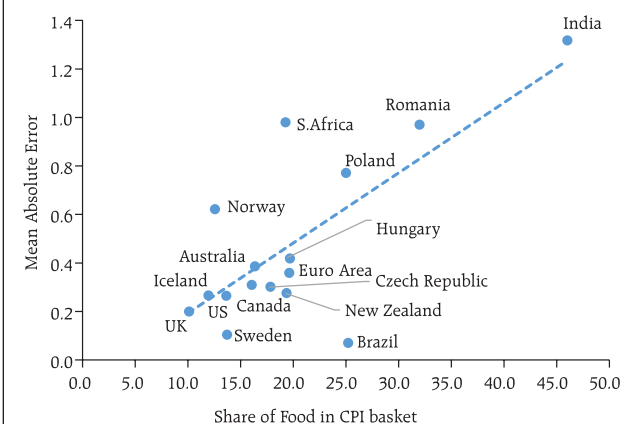
(0.93) (4.91) (0.66)

$$\pi_fe_{it} = -0.12 + 0.09 y_fe_{it} + 0.002 doil_{it} \quad \dots\dots\dots (2)$$

(1.27) (1.13) (0.14)

Figures in parentheses are t-statistics; y_fe , π_fe , yw_s , $doil$ are growth forecast errors, inflation forecast errors, global growth surprise and change in crude oil prices in local currency terms, respectively⁶.

Chart I.1.2: Inflation Forecast Errors and Share of Food



Note: Mean absolute error is average of absolute forecast errors for the years 2018 and 2019.
Sources: Websites of central banks/statistics offices and RBI staff estimates.

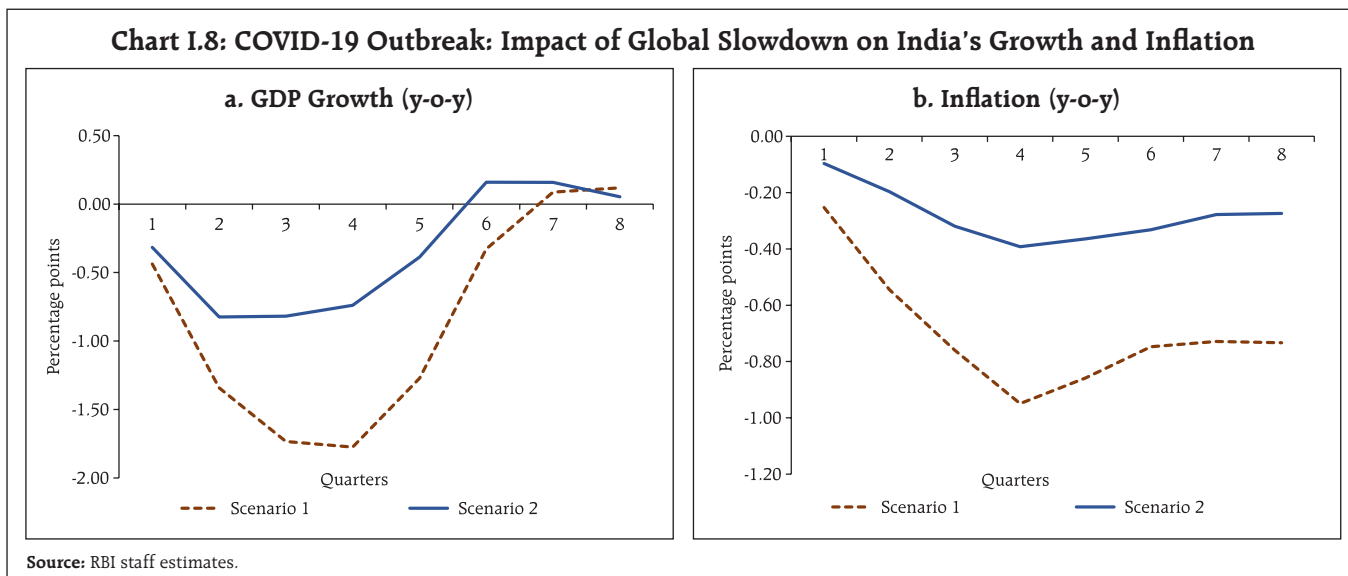
In India, the forecasting challenges are even more acute, given the high share (45.9 per cent) of the food basket in the CPI (Combined) (Chart I.1.2) as well as large revisions in past GDP growth rates. The Reserve Bank, like other central banks, provides fan charts around the baseline projections to convey future uncertainty.

Against this backdrop and especially, the highly fluid circumstances in which incoming data produce shifts in the outlook for growth on a daily basis, forecasts for real GDP growth in India are not provided here, awaiting a clear fix on the intensity, spread and duration of COVID-19. To illustrate, in early March, the OECD projected the decline in global growth for 2020 in the range of 0.5-1.5 percentage points. More recently, with COVID-19 having spread to more than 200 countries, the IMF's latest assessment is that global growth during 2020 could be negative *vis-à-vis* growth of 2.9 per cent in 2019 (which itself was a decadal low). Thus, global growth could be lower by three percentage points or more in 2020 relative to 2019. The possible impact of

the global slowdown on India's growth and inflation can be assessed by using the Quarterly Projection Model (QPM)⁷ under alternative scenarios. Scenario 1 assumes global growth in 2020 to be 3 percentage points lower than in 2019. Scenario 2 assumes that the outbreak is contained faster and the loss of global output growth is only 1.5 percentage points relative to 2019. Lower global output and demand can impact the Indian economy through a variety of channels. First, it can affect exports adversely, leading to lower domestic demand, growth and inflation. Second, international crude oil and other commodity prices have already softened sharply amidst high volatility and India, being a net importer, can benefit from the lower commodity prices. Finally, heightened global financial market volatility can feed into

⁶ Global growth surprise is captured by actual global growth less the forecast made in the preceding year's October edition of the IMF's World Economic Outlook. Crude oil price surprise is measured as the percentage change in its local-currency price during the year from its level in the last quarter of the preceding year.

⁷ The QPM is a semi-structural, forward-looking, open economy, calibrated, gap model in the New Keynesian tradition and provides an internally consistent analysis of various feedback mechanisms.



domestic financial markets and impact both growth and inflation. The QPM captures all these channels. The model's simulations suggest that, on account of global factors, domestic growth could be lower, at its peak, by 180 bps in Scenario 1 and by 80 bps in Scenario 2. Inflation could be lower by 40-100 bps at its peak under the two scenarios (Chart I.8).

1.3 Balance of Risks

The COVID-19 pandemic poses upside and downside risks to the baseline assumptions and outlook.

(i) Exchange Rate

The exchange rate of the Indian rupee *vis-à-vis* the US dollar has moved in both directions in recent months. Renewed bouts of global financial market volatility caused by the uncertainty of macroeconomic impact of the COVID-19, as in February-March 2020, could exert pressure on the Indian rupee. Should the INR depreciate by 5 per cent from the baseline, inflation could edge up by around 20 bps while GDP growth could be higher by around 15 bps through increased net exports. In contrast, should COVID-19 normalise quickly, strong capital flows could revive. An appreciation of the INR by 5 per cent could moderate

inflation by around 20 bps and GDP growth by around 15 bps *vis-à-vis* the baseline.

(ii) International Crude Oil Prices

Global crude oil prices have declined sharply from their October 2019 levels mainly due to weakening of global demand following the outbreak of COVID-19, and Saudi Arabia's decision to cut prices. However, the short and medium-term outlook of oil remains highly uncertain. A V-shaped global recovery due to an early containment of the COVID-19 or renewed geopolitical tensions or an agreement on production cuts could lead to a sharp reversal in international crude oil prices. Should the Indian basket of crude oil prices increase by 10 per cent above the baseline assumption, inflation could be higher by 20 bps and growth could be weaker by around 15 bps. If COVID-19 were to persist longer, global economic activity and demand for crude oil could fall further in an environment of sustained oversupply due to Saudi Arabia's decision to enhance production. Should the Indian basket crude price fall by 10 per cent *vis-à-vis* the baseline, inflation could ease by up to 20 bps and growth higher by up to 15 bps, depending upon the extent of pass-through to domestic product prices.

(iii) Food Prices

After remaining subdued for a considerable period, food inflation in India increased sharply during October 2019-January 2020, driven by a spike in vegetable prices. The baseline path assumes vegetable prices to fall rapidly in response to arrivals of *rabi* harvests and a normal south-west monsoon during 2020, which is supported by early signals of likely ENSO (El Nino – Southern Oscillation) neutral conditions. Adequate buffer stocks in cereals and a good *rabi* harvest (2019 season) could soften food inflation more than anticipated and pull down headline inflation by 50 bps below the baseline. On the other hand, a deficient or spatially skewed south-west monsoon, and an unexpected hardening of prices of non-vegetable food items could push

headline inflation above the baseline by around 50 bps in 2020-21.

I.4 Conclusion

COVID-19, the accompanying lockdowns and the expected contraction in global output in 2020 weigh heavily on the growth outlook. The actual outcome would depend upon the speed with which the outbreak is contained and economic activity returns to normalcy. Significant monetary and liquidity measures taken by the Reserve Bank and fiscal measures by the government would mitigate the adverse impact on domestic demand and help spur economic activity once normalcy is restored. Risks around the inflation projections appear balanced at this juncture and the tentative outlook is benign relative to recent history. But COVID-19 hangs over the future, like a spectre.

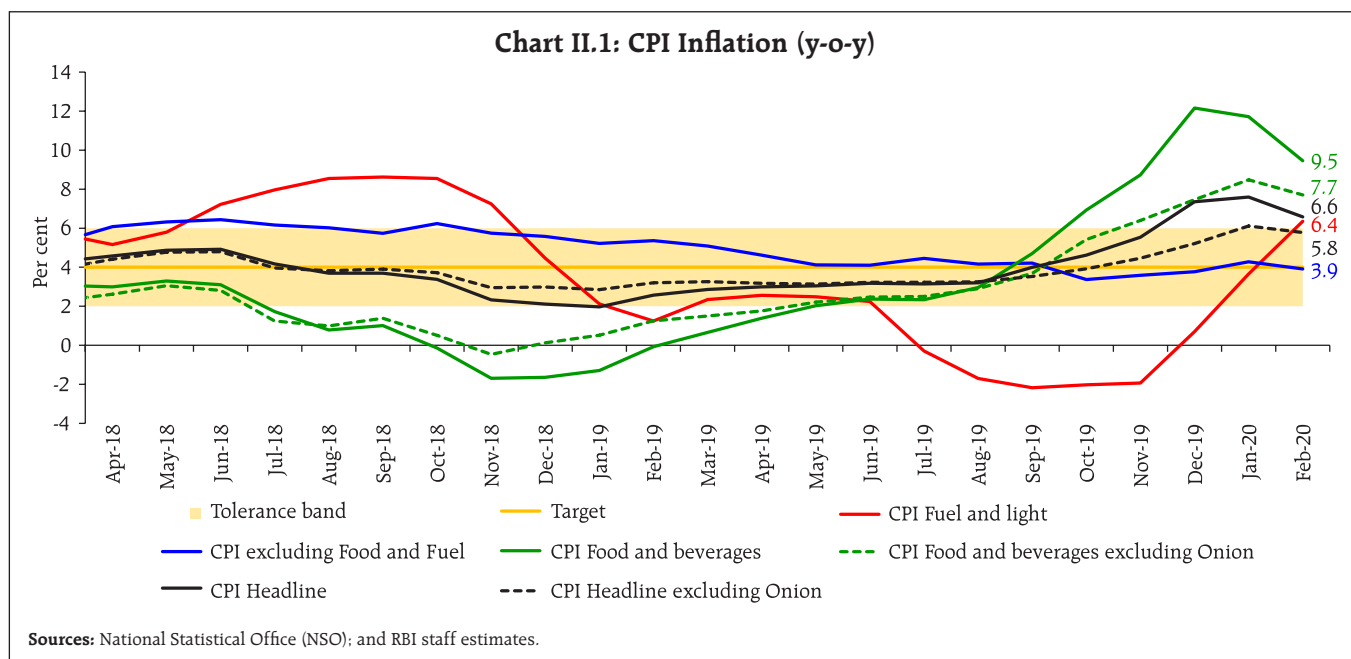
II. Prices and Costs

Consumer price inflation surged between October 2019 and January 2020 propelled by a vegetable price spike, particularly of onions and breached the upper tolerance threshold in December before moderating in February. Fuel prices emerged out of deflation in December. After touching a historic low in October, inflation in CPI excluding food and fuel edged up due to idiosyncratic cost-push factors. Costs of farm inputs, industrial raw materials, agricultural and non-agricultural labourers' nominal wages and organised sector staff costs remained muted.

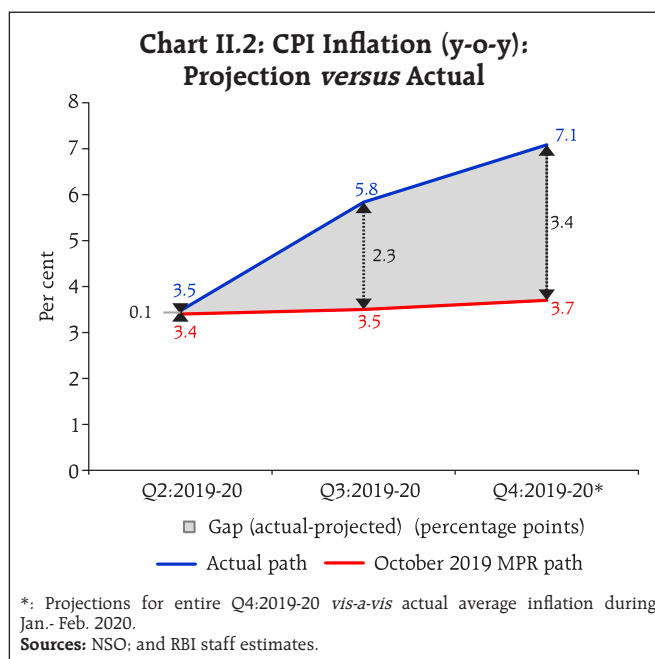
Headline inflation, measured by the consumer price index (CPI),¹ had been trailing below target for thirteen consecutive months till Q2:2019-20 when a ratcheting up of vegetables prices – mainly those of onions – dispelled this environment of price stability. In the event, headline inflation breached the upper tolerance ceiling of 6 per cent by December 2019 and peaked at 7.6 per cent in January

2020 before moderating to 6.6 per cent in February. An unusually prolonged south-west monsoon and unseasonal rains ravaged the later part of the *kharif* harvest and produced an unprecedented rise in prices of onions. In fact, excluding onions, headline inflation would have been 4.5 per cent in Q3 and 5.9 per cent in Q4 (till February), underscoring the severity of the onion price shock. Fuel prices too moved out of five months of deflation into positive territory in December 2019 and increased sharply thereafter. Inflation excluding food and fuel – or core inflation – hardened in a sustained manner from a historic low of 3.4 per cent in October 2019 to 4.3 per cent in January 2020, propelled by a series of cost pushes before registering some moderation in February (Chart II.1).

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Act, 1934 (amended in 2016) enjoins the RBI to set out deviations of actual inflation outcomes from projections, if any, and explain the underlying reasons thereof. The



¹ Headline inflation is measured by year-on-year changes in all India CPI Combined (Rural and Urban).



Monetary Policy Report (MPR) of October 2019 had projected CPI inflation to remain range-bound in H2: 2019-20, at 3.5 per cent in Q3:2019-20 and at 3.7 per cent for Q4:2019-20. Actual inflation outcomes have overshoot projections by a considerable margin – 2.3 percentage points in Q3 and 3.4 percentage points in Q4 (Chart II.2).

As stated earlier, the unanticipated and unparalleled spike in onion prices was the major source of deviation of headline inflation from projections. Unseasonal rains also delayed the seasonal winter moderation in prices of other vegetables, particularly those of potatoes. In addition, a larger than anticipated pick-up in cereals and milk prices due to *kharif* crop damage coming from the unseasonal rains, lower wheat imports and higher minimum support prices for wheat in the case of the former and an escalation in input costs in the case of the latter aggravated inflation pressures. CPI excluding food and fuel inflation also turned out to be a source of projection errors in Q4 due to a series of cost-push shocks – higher mobile phone tariffs; higher motor-vehicles prices due to the ongoing switchover to

BS-VI² compliant vehicles, higher gold prices reflecting international price movements; and higher services prices for sweepers, laundry, beauticians, bus fares – reflecting, *inter alia*, the spill over from higher food and fuel prices. In Q4:2019-20 (January-February), crude oil prices (Indian basket) softened from around US\$ 63 per barrel at the time of the October MPR to US\$ 55 per barrel by February, which helped temper these cost-push upsides.

II.1 Consumer Prices

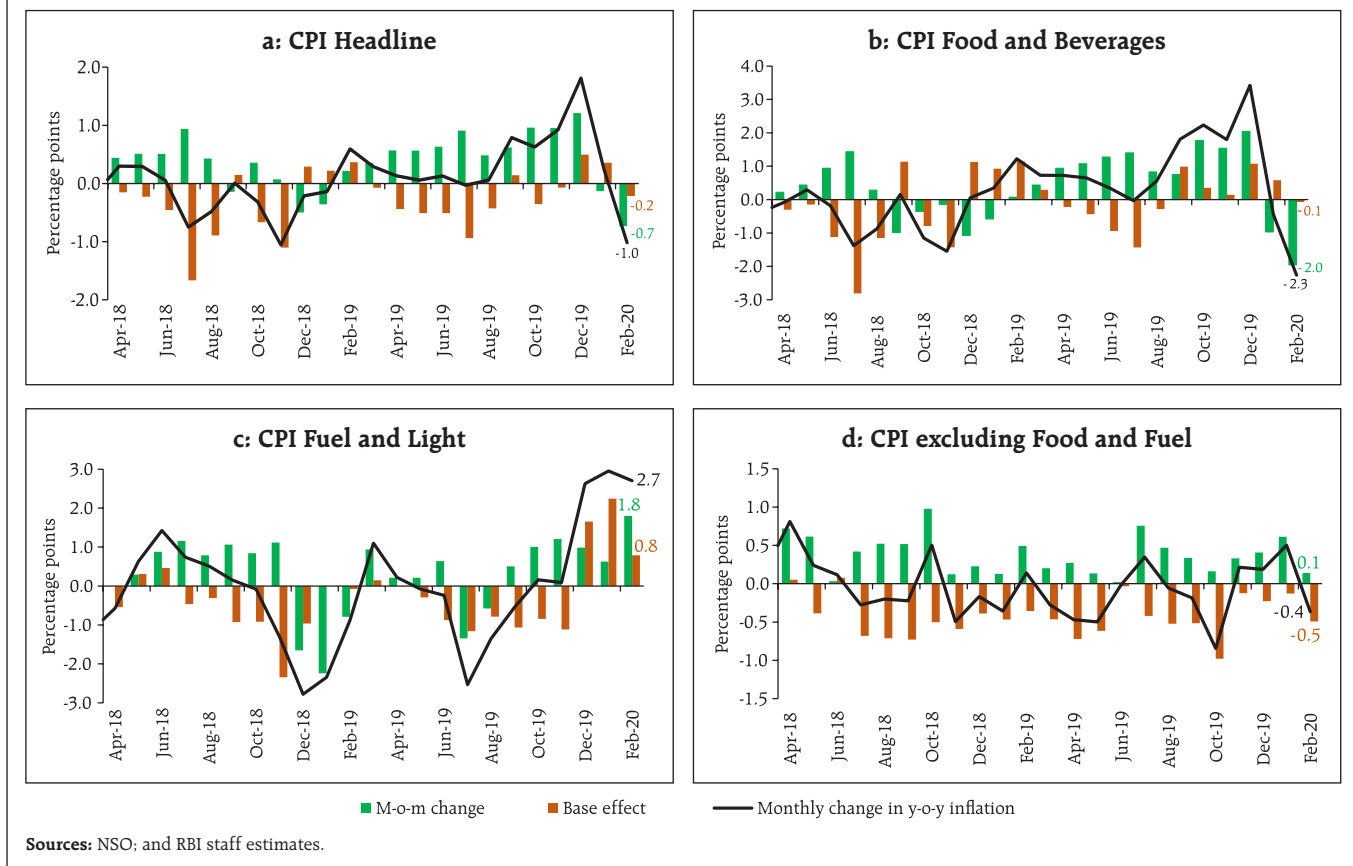
A decomposition of year-on-year (y-o-y) inflation suggests that a sharp increase in price momentum as well as unfavourable base effects were at work in H2:2019-20³. As against the normal seasonal decline in food prices during Q3, the measured food price momentum in Q3 was positive registering the highest increase during any third quarter in the history of the index. As a result, food inflation surged to double digits by the end of Q3. Adverse base effects also pushed up fuel inflation. In January, food prices started to decline, but the persisting firmness in the momentum of core inflation pushed headline inflation to a peak in January. In February, headline inflation moderated coming from a sharp decline in food prices and waning of core inflation momentum (Chart II.3).

The distribution of inflation across CPI groups in 2019-20 has diverged considerably from the recent historical experience. Median inflation rate turned out to be lower compared with the last three-year average. However, 2019-20 exhibited high

² BS VI or Bharat Stage VI denotes the new emission standard that needs to be complied by all light and heavy vehicles, two and three wheeled vehicles manufactured on or after April 1, 2020.

³ A change in CPI year-on-year (y-o-y) inflation between any two months is the difference between the current month-on-month (m-o-m) change in the price index (momentum) and the m-o-m change in the price index 12 months earlier (base effect). For more details see Box I.1 of the MPR, September 2014.

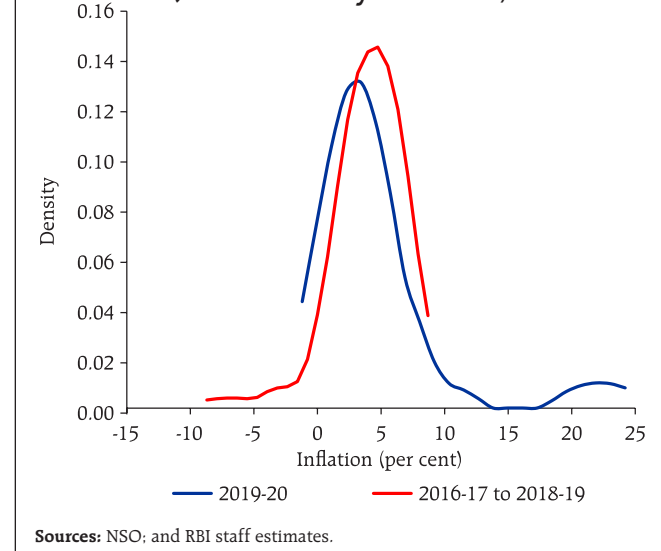
Chart II.3: CPI Inflation – Momentum and Base Effects



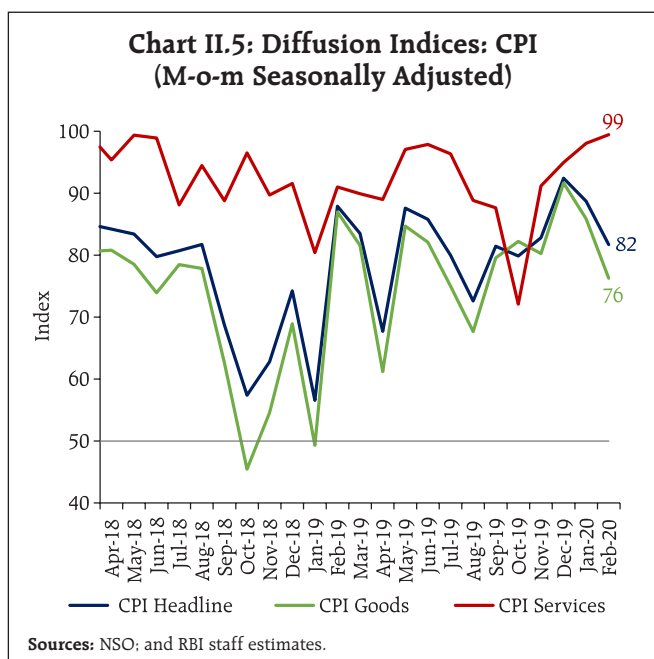
positive skew – as food sub-groups like vegetables exhibited very high inflation rates – compared to a negative skew for the historical average. As a result, the mean inflation rate for 2019-20 turned out to be considerably higher than the average of last 3 years (Chart II.4). Even as select food items swayed overall inflation rates in Q3:2019-20, a pick-up in the diffusion indices⁴ of price changes in CPI items, on a seasonally adjusted basis, also point to a broad-basing of price increases in the CPI basket – across goods and services – during this period. In Q4 so far, while almost all services have continued to register price increases, incidence of price increases in goods

has seen some compression, largely on account of food items (Chart II.5).

Chart II.4: Average CPI Inflation (y-o-y) (Kernel Density Estimates)



⁴ The CPI diffusion index, a measure of dispersion of price changes, categorises items in the CPI basket according to whether their prices have risen, remained stagnant or fallen over the previous month. A reading above 50 for the diffusion index signals a broad expansion or generalisation of price increases and a reading below 50 signals a broad-based price decline.



II.2 Drivers of Inflation

A historical decomposition of inflation outcomes in H2:2019-20 reveals how adverse supply shocks overwhelmed the disinflationary impact of subdued domestic demand, both urban and rural (Chart II.6a).⁵ Perishable goods (non-durable goods with a 7-day recall⁶) – food items such as vegetables, milk and

⁵ Historical decompositions are used to estimate the contribution of each shock to the movements in inflation over the sample period, based on a vector auto regression (VAR) with the following variables (represented as the vector Y_t) – the annual growth rate in crude oil prices; inflation; the output gap; the annual growth rate in rural wages and the policy repo rate. The VAR can be written in reduced form as: $Y_t = c + A Y_{t-1} + e_t$; where e_t represents a vector of shocks [oil price shock; supply shock (inflation shock); output gap shock; wage shock; and policy shock]. Using Wold decomposition, Y_t can be represented as a function of its deterministic trend and sum of all the shocks e_t . This formulation facilitates decomposition of the deviation of inflation from its deterministic trend into the sum of contributions from various shocks.

⁶ The CPI weighting diagrams use the modified mixed reference period (MMRP) data based on the 2011-12 Consumer Expenditure Survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO). Under MMRP, data on expenditure incurred are collected for frequently purchased items – for edible oil, eggs, fish, meat, vegetables, fruits, spices, beverages, processed foods, pan, tobacco and intoxicants, during the last seven days; for clothing, bedding, footwear, education, medical (institutional), durable goods, during the last 365 days; and for all other food, fuel and light, miscellaneous goods and services including non-institutional medical services, rents and taxes, during the last 30 days.

meat products – were the key drivers, contributing 1.3 percentage points to overall inflation in Q2, 3.7 percentage points in Q3 and 4.0 percentage points in Q4 so far (Chart II.6b). The contribution of less perishable goods (non-durable goods with a 30-day recall) also picked up from Q3:2019-20 due to cereals, pulses, sugar and petroleum products. Durable goods contribution to headline inflation, which remained largely steady during September-December – on an average at 36 bps – picked up to around 40 bps in January-February due to a rise in gold prices. Imported goods⁷ contributed negatively to overall inflation during September-November 2019, but their contribution turned positive during December 2019-February 2020 – on an average contributing around 60 bps to headline inflation, after a surge in energy and precious metals prices (Chart II.6c). The contribution of services to overall inflation remained sticky at around one percentage point as the sharp increase in mobile telecom charges during December 2019-January 2020 more than offset the moderation in inflation in house rentals, hospital services and tuition fees (Chart II.6b).

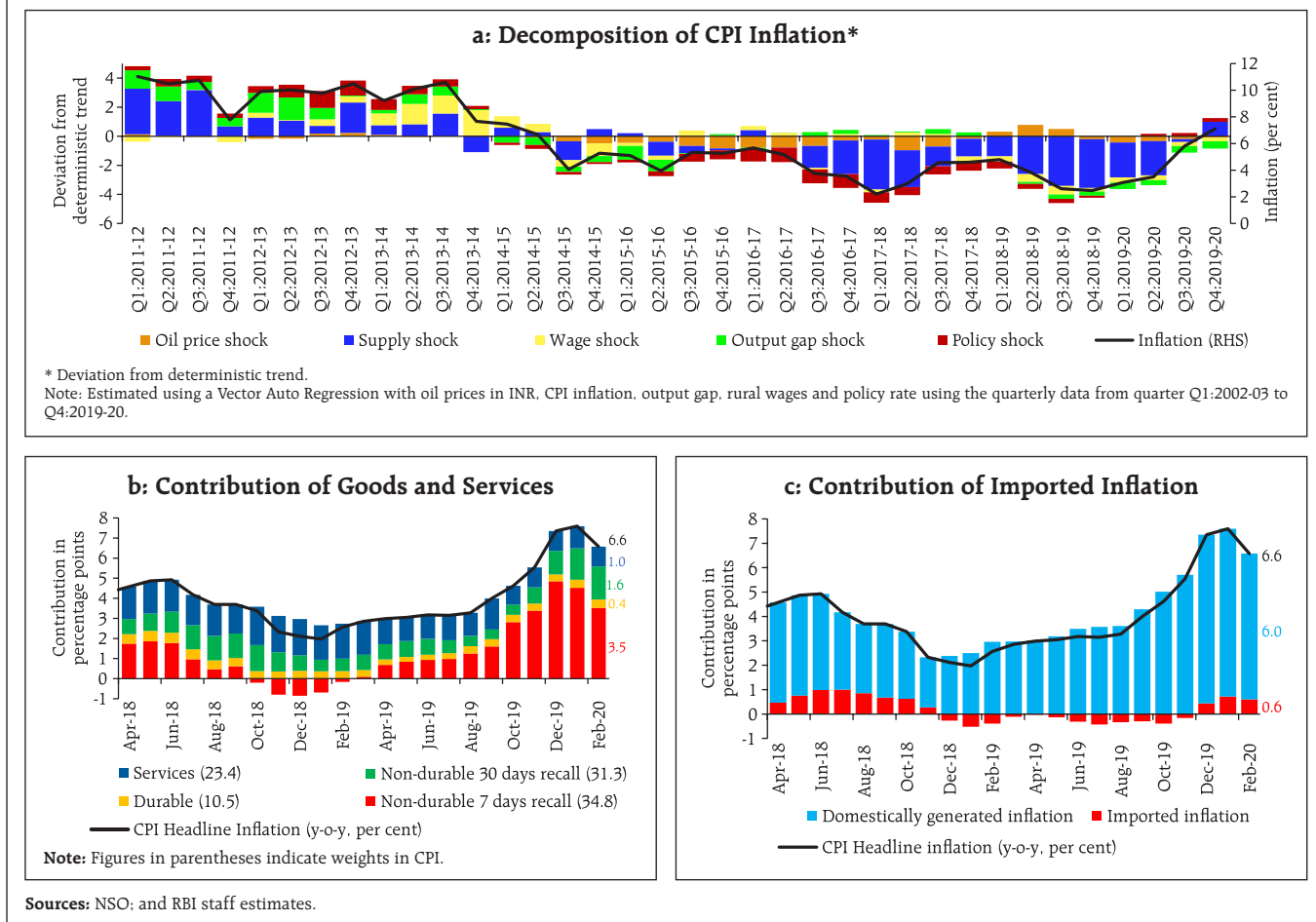
CPI Food Group

Food and beverages (weight: 45.9 per cent in CPI) weighed heavily on changes in the overall CPI inflation during April 2019-February 2020, with the cumulative peak food price build-up in December turning out to be at a historical high (Chart II.7a & II.7b).

As a result, food inflation, which had ranged between 0.7 per cent and 4.7 per cent during March-September 2019, accelerated thereafter to peak at 12.2 per cent in December (Chart II.8a). Most of this upsurge was propelled by a vegetables price spike as a consequence of unseasonal rains; however, broad-

⁷ India's imports are dominated by crude petroleum & petroleum products (around 25.0 per cent of the total imports). The other major components of imports are electronic goods (11.0 per cent), gold and silver (8.0 per cent), chemical and chemical products (6.0 per cent), metal and metal products (6.0 per cent), pearls and precious stones (6.0 per cent) and vegetables oils (2.0 per cent). Also, the domestic prices of items such as raw cotton move in tandem with international cotton prices.

Chart II.6: Drivers of CPI Inflation



basing of price pressures across the food category was observed in H2:2019-20 encompassing pulses, meat

and fish, spices, eggs, cereals and milk (Chart II.8b). Food inflation moderated sequentially in January and

Chart II.7: CPI Food Price Build-up

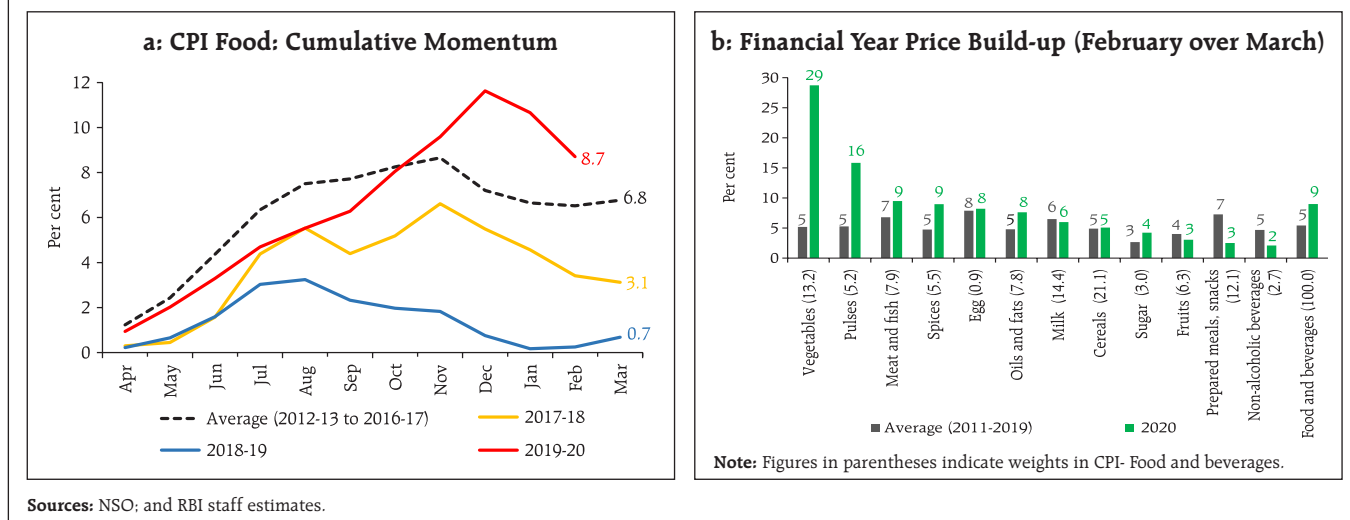
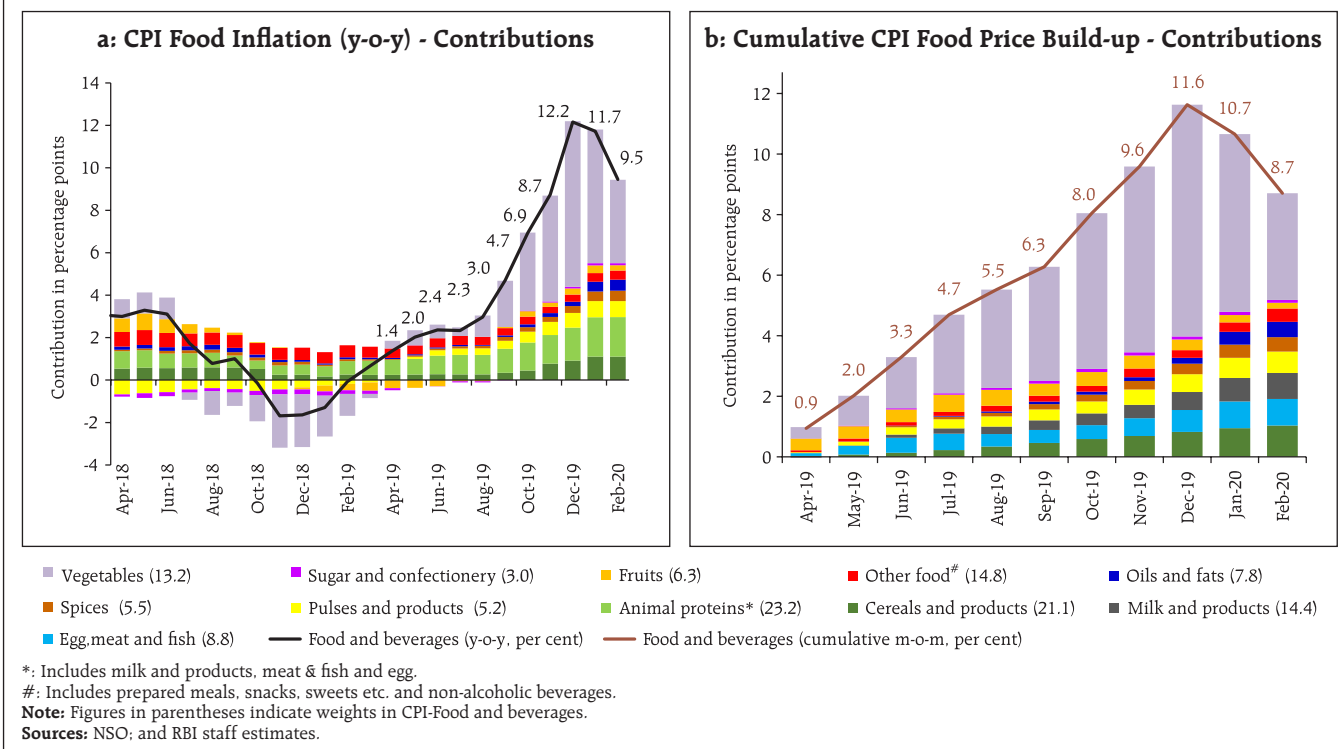


Chart II.8: CPI Food Inflation and Price Build-up



February 2020, with the delayed seasonal easing in vegetables prices.

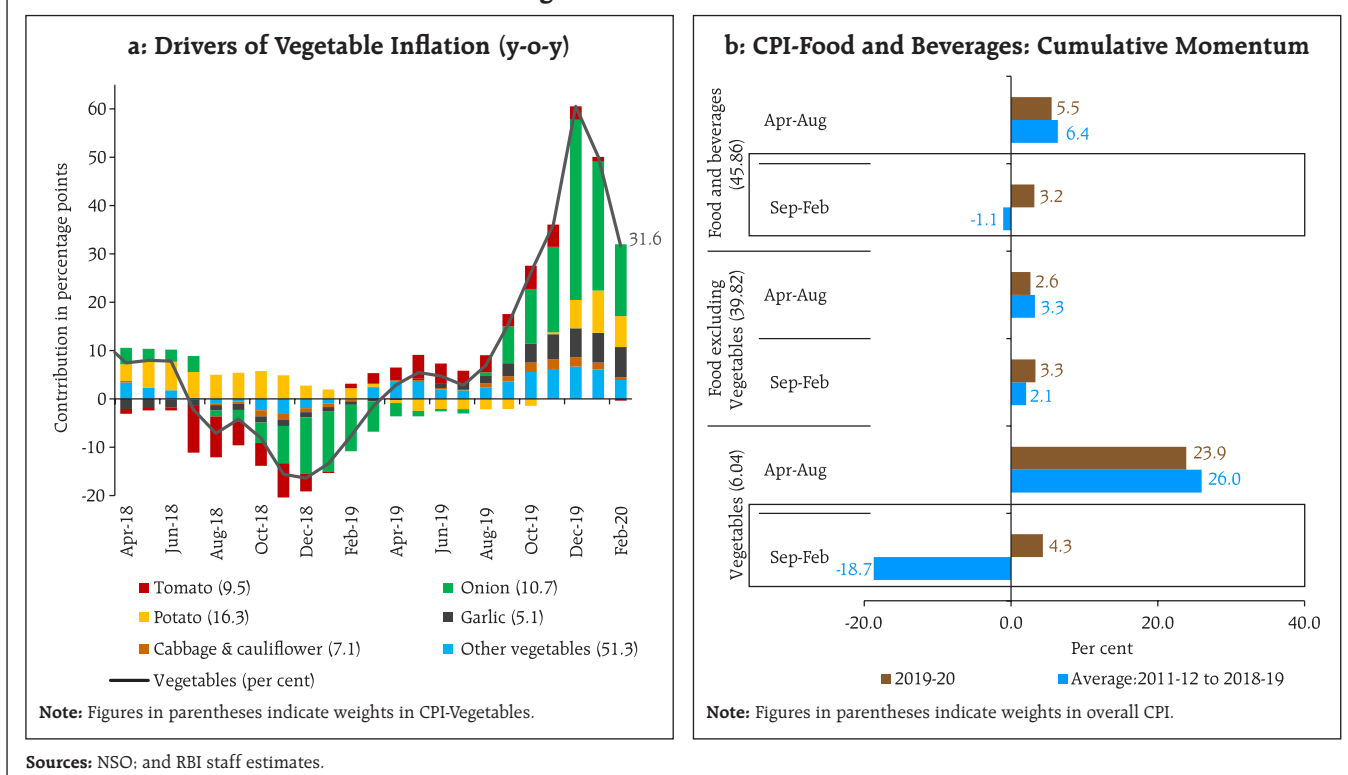
Price increases in respect of cereals (weight of 9.7 per cent in the CPI and 21.1 per cent in the food and beverages group) were sharper in H2: 2019-20. Wheat prices were driven up by higher procurement at upwardly revised minimum support prices (MSPs) and significantly lower imports [(-)39 per cent lower during April 2019-January 2020]. Non-public distribution system (PDS) rice prices emerged out of 11 months of deflation in October 2019 and gained momentum thereafter in the wake of damage to *kharif* crops due to unseasonal rain in October and early November 2019. They started to moderate from February 2020 due to large carry forward stocks, better *rabi* harvest prospects and lower exports.

Inflation in prices of vegetables (weight of 6.0 per cent in the CPI and 13.2 per cent in the food and beverages group) rose to double digits from September

2019 and peaked at 60.5 per cent in December 2019, reflecting the impact of crop losses and supply disruptions due to excessive and unseasonal rains (Chart II.9a). With the arrival of the late *kharif* harvest, a delayed seasonal easing in vegetables prices started in January 2020. The year 2019-20 will likely be unique in vegetable price pressures, as the severe supply shock completely overshadowed the seasonal pattern of usual winter easing in prices of vegetables, particularly onions, tomatoes and potatoes which brings relief from the price build-up during the preceding months of the year (Chart II.9b).

In India, a societal intolerance to inflation in double digits stands out starkly including in political discourse. This is best exemplified in social responses to inflation in onion prices. In 2019-20, onion prices surged from September 2019, with inflation in this category spiking to 327 per cent in December 2019 and contributing a staggering 4.7 percentage points to

Chart II.9: CPI Vegetables and CPI Food Price Momentum



food inflation and 2.1 percentage points to headline inflation. This unpleasant inflation surprise exposed the time lags and lack of adequate band-width of supply-side measures such as imposing minimum export price (MEP) of US\$ 850 per tonnes, banning export of onions, and imposing stock holding limits on wholesale traders and retailers in September 2019, as well as announcing import of 1.2 lakh tonnes of onions from Turkey, Afghanistan and Egypt during November-December 2019. It was only with the arrival of late *kharif* crop from January 2020 that onion prices began moderating. The ferocious pace of onion price escalation and the extent of spillovers highlight the urgent need for supply side reforms (Box II.1).

As regards other inflation-sensitive vegetables, potato prices remained in deflation from April 2019 to October 2019, despite a pick-up in prices during this period, largely due to favourable base effects. The momentum of potato prices remained broadly

positive during April 2019-January 2020, firmed up by crop loss and supply disruptions from excess/unseasonal rains during October-November 2019 in Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, which was reflected in lower *mandi* arrivals. Anecdotal evidence also suggests that cyclone *bulbul* resulted in delayed sowing in West Bengal by around 20 days. As a result, potato price inflation rose to 62.9 per cent in January 2020, before moderating to 47.0 per cent in February 2020 due to fresh arrivals on the back of production turning out to be higher by 3.5 per cent in 2019-20. On the other hand, inflation in tomato prices moderated from its peak of 70 per cent in May 2019 and remained in high double digits during October-December 2019, reflecting untimely rains and associated supply disruptions. Beginning January 2020, tomato price inflation started moderating in the usual seasonal downturn and turned into deflation in February 2020 at (-)4.3 per cent.

Box II.1: Onion Price Shock – Issues in Supply Management

The onion price shock of 2019 is the largest in recent times in terms of magnitude and duration (Chart II.1.1).

In order to understand this, in many ways, unprecedented experience, the dynamics of the transmission of onion price shocks from various wholesale markets to all India average retail prices are evaluated with a vector autoregressive (VAR) model using daily data on price of onions from wholesale and retail markets with the following specification:

$$Y_t = c + A Y_{t-1} + e_t \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

where Y_t represents the vector of daily prices of onion in the key wholesale markets, viz. Jodhpur, Kurnool, Nashik, Pune and Others (average of other markets), and the average all-India retail prices; e_t represents the vector of supply and demand shocks – shocks corresponding to wholesale market prices represent the supply shocks and the shock corresponding to average retail market price represents the demand shock. The estimates are based on daily wholesale and retail price data provided by Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA), Government of India from August 5, 2019 to February 28, 2020.

Chart II.1.1: Mandi Price of Onions

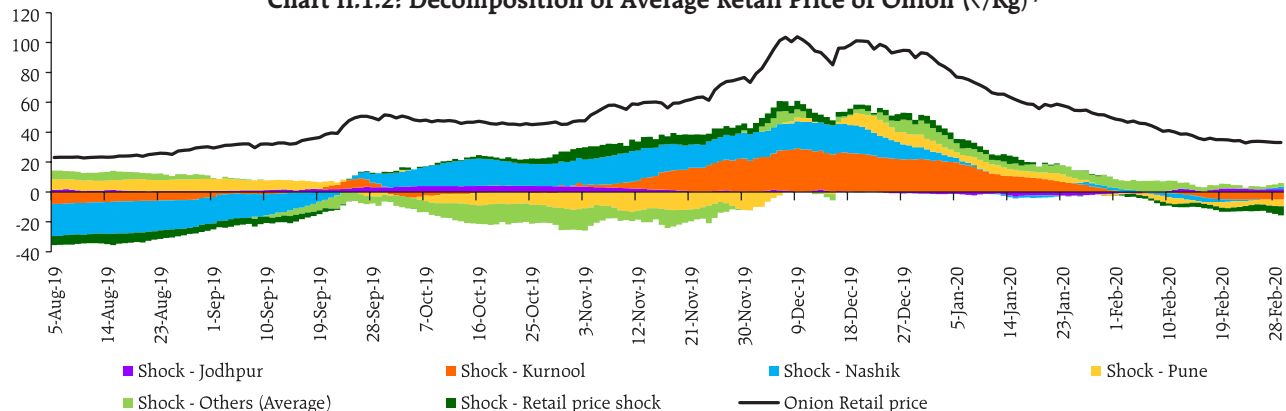


Source: Agmarknet.

The historical decomposition of average retail prices points to onion price shocks from the wholesale markets of Maharashtra in early-October and thereafter spreading to Karnataka by early-November and almost immediately

getting transmitted to all-India retail prices, exacerbated by widening of price margins between wholesale and retail markets. By end-January, the onion price shocks completely reversed (Chart II.1.2).

Chart II.1.2: Decomposition of Average Retail Price of Onion (₹/Kg)*



* Deviation from the deterministic trend.

Sources: RBI staff estimates based on data from DCA, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

(contd.)

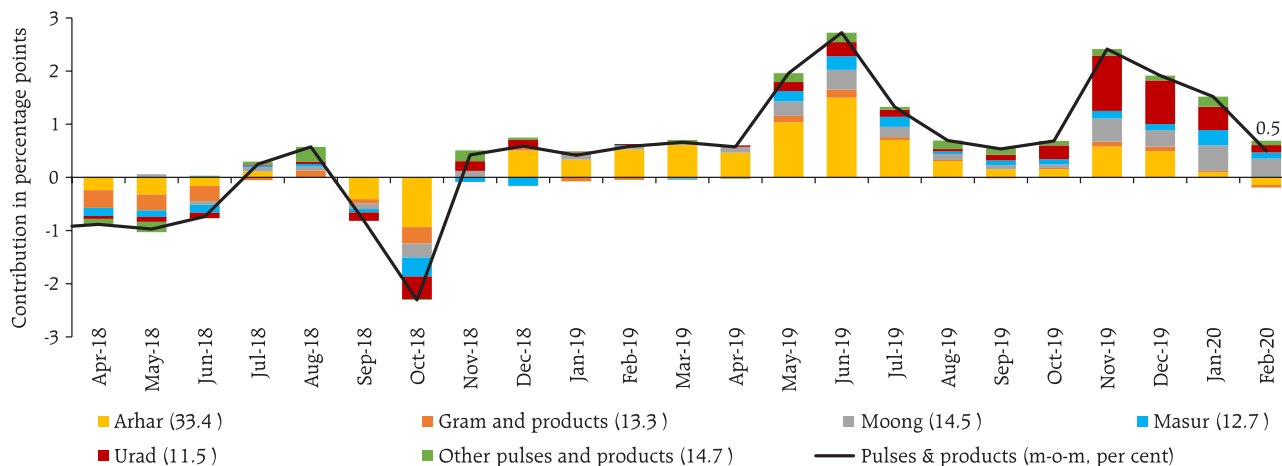
Given that onion production in India in any given year comfortably meets demand with additional produce available for exports, this analysis underscores the need for refining the supply management policies in managing the volatility in onion prices. The contours of more effective supply management for onions need to centre around the following: (1) making available better information systems to farmers on weather and the production outlook so as to enable them better plan onion production for the year ahead; (2) initiating reforms in the agricultural marketing systems to encourage direct sale of farm produce by farmers to

consumers; (3) strengthening initiatives like e-NAM for better price discovery; (4) improving storage facilities for farmers so as to avoid distress sales; (5) creating an adequate buffer stock of *rabi* produce to help manage supply disruptions during leaner *kharif* and late-*kharif* seasons; and (6); encouraging food processing initiatives – dehydrating onions to convert into powder and paste forms that can be made available at a reasonable price. In fact, most of the onion price spikes in the past have occurred in *kharif* and late-*kharif* seasons, pointing to the key role of supply-side management policies in mitigating onion price spikes.

Prices of fruits (weight of 2.9 per cent in the CPI and 6.3 per cent within the food and beverages group) emerged out of 9 months of deflation in September 2019 to reach a level of 5.8 per cent in January 2020, primarily due to unfavourable base effects. By February 2020, fruit price inflation eased to 4.0 per cent. Banana prices have seen a sustained decline since November 2019. On the other hand, apple prices started a decline from August 2019 itself on the back of higher market arrivals consequent on production being higher by 18.0 per cent during 2019-20, although prices recovered somewhat since January 2020.

Prices of pulses (weight of 2.4 per cent in the CPI and 5.2 per cent in the food and beverages group) were another source of inflation pressures with inflation in this category picking up considerably to reach 16.6 per cent in February 2020 from (-) 0.8 per cent in April 2019. This reflected a decline in *kharif* pulses production – by 2.1 per cent as per second advance estimates (AE) for 2019-20 over final estimates for 2018-19 – and especially *urad* production (by 27.1 per cent) on account of lower *kharif* sowing and unseasonal rains-led crop damages (Chart II.10). Even though imports were higher by 25 per cent during

Chart II.10: Drivers of CPI-Pulses and Products (m-o-m)



Note: Figures in parentheses indicate weights in CPI-Pulses and products.
Sources: NSO; and RBI staff estimates.

April 2019-January 2020 y-o-y, they failed to mitigate the rising price pressures in pulses.

Besides vegetables and pulses, prices of animal-based protein-rich items were another pressure point, contributing 20.4 per cent to overall food inflation in 2019-20. Inflation in the case of meat and fish remained elevated during April 2019-January 2020 and reached 10.6 per cent in January 2020 (highest in last 72 months). The prices of meat and fish increased significantly during the year (except during the lean season of August-October 2019) reflecting higher feed prices (especially, maize and soybean) on account of unseasonal rains, which accentuated seasonal price pressures. Concomitantly, egg price inflation also inched up to 10.5 per cent in January 2020 from 1.9 per cent in April 2019, but softened to 7.3 per cent in February 2020. Prices of both chicken and egg contracted sharply in February 2020 on account of a fall in consumption due to COVID-19 scare.

Prices of milk and milk products (weight of 6.6 per cent in the CPI and 14.4 per cent in the food and beverages group) also contributed to higher food inflation. Co-operatives like *Amul* and *Mother Dairy* raised retail milk prices for the second time (first round in May 2019) in December 2019 in the range of ₹ 2-3 per litre due to increased procurement prices. Many state milk co-operatives also announced increases in prices, which kept the momentum of milk and its products at an elevated level during the year. Procurement prices were raised in response to the increase in the cost of production. Additionally, higher global prices for skimmed milk products also impacted domestic milk prices positively. Milk inflation hardened to a 56-month high of 6.0 per cent in February 2020.

Sugar and confectionery prices (weight of 1.4 per cent in the CPI and 3.0 per cent in the food and beverages group) emerged out of four months of continuous deflation in October 2019, partly due to adverse base effects. Despite domestic and global

production shortfalls, higher than expected domestic availability due to last year's carry forward stock has helped keep domestic price pressures under check.

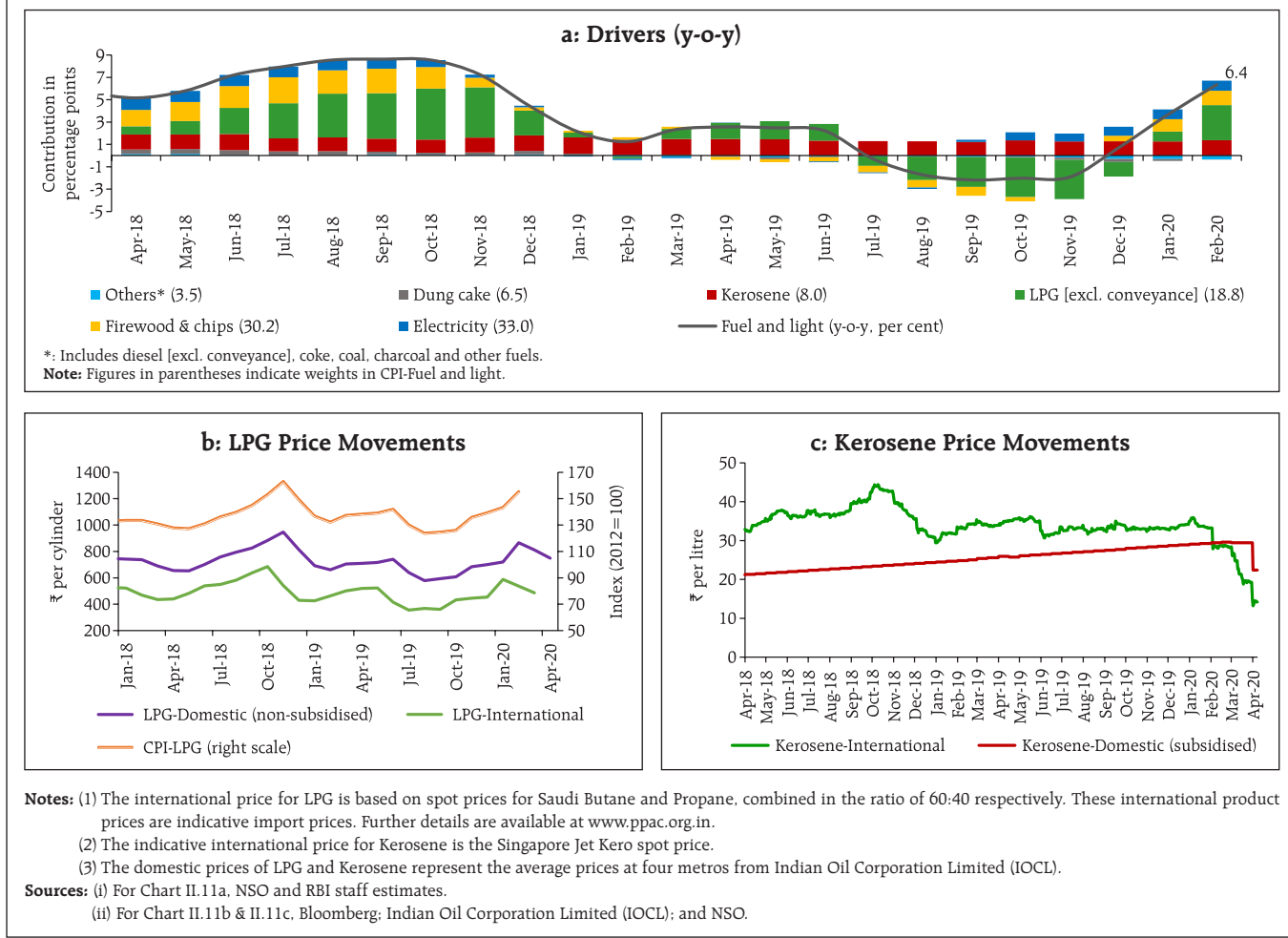
Inflation in prices of edible oils and fats also edged up during the year from 0.7 per cent in April 2019 to 7.6 per cent in February 2020. Higher edible oils inflation emerged from a combination of rising international prices, lower domestic production of *rabi* oilseeds and adverse base effects. Higher milk prices also impacted the prices of ghee and butter.

Price pressures picked up considerably in spices leading to a gradual hardening of inflation in this group to 8.8 per cent in February 2020 from 0.8 per cent in April 2019 due to overall lower production.

CPI Fuel Group

Prices of the CPI fuel group, which sank into deflation in July at (-)0.3 per cent, continued in negative territory till November 2019 as prices of key fuel items such as liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), firewood and chips and dung cake moved into deep deflation. The fuel group moved out of deflation in December registering a sharp rise thereafter, taking inflation in this category to 6.4 per cent by February. A pick-up in prices of electricity, LPG and firewood and chips and strong adverse base effects contributed to this upsurge (Chart II.11a). International propane and butane prices, which were declining through H1:2019-20, registered sustained price increases during October 2019-January 2020, accentuated by supply disruptions due to geopolitical tensions. These pressures were also transmitted to domestic LPG prices with a lag in February 2020 (Chart II.11b). Administered kerosene price inflation remained sticky and elevated reflecting calibrated price increases by oil marketing companies (OMCs) to phase out the fuel subsidy. By early February, however, administered prices were above market rates, particularly due to the sudden plunge in international prices. This led to a reduction in kerosene prices in the PDS during March-April (Chart II.11c).

Chart II.11: CPI Fuel Group Inflation

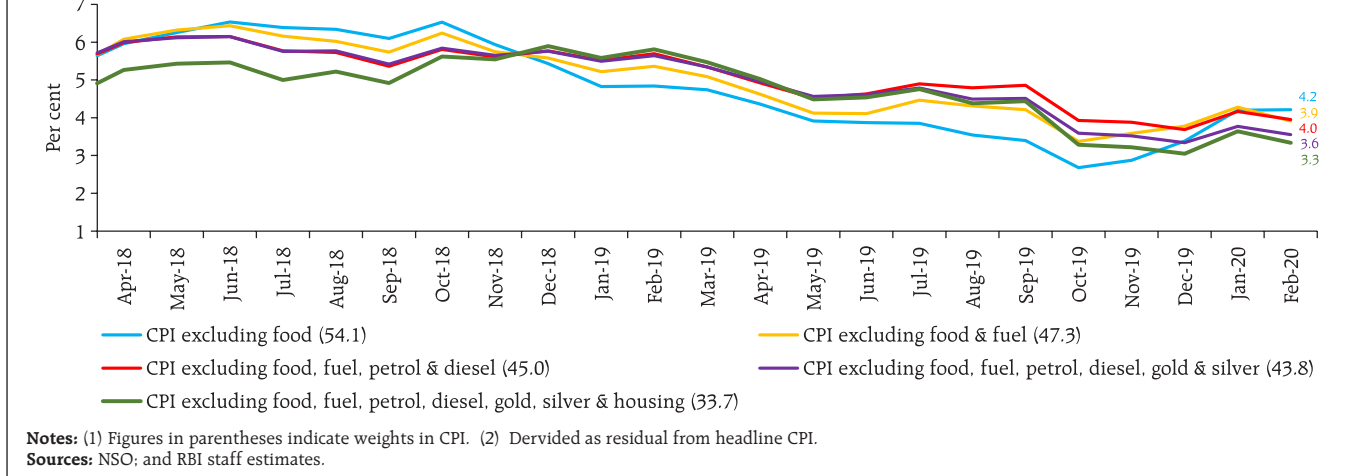


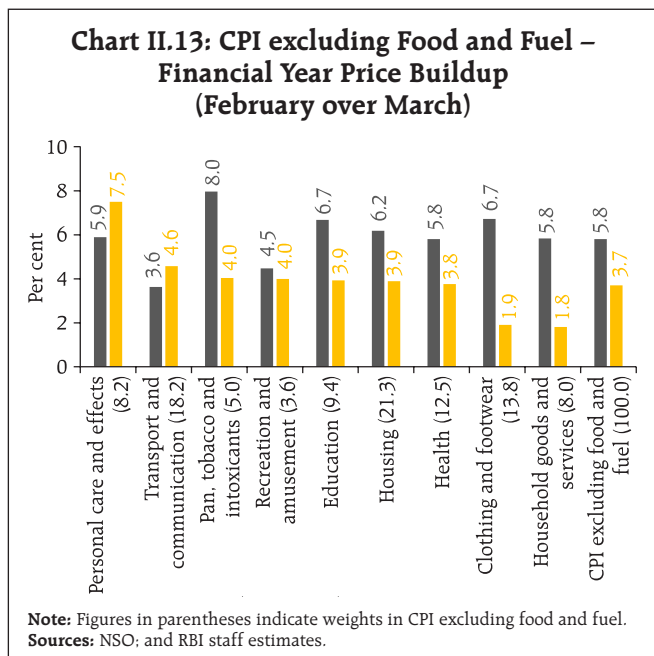
CPI excluding Food and Fuel

CPI inflation excluding food and fuel or core inflation picked up sequentially from 3.4 per cent

in October 2019 to 4.3 per cent in January 2020, before registering some moderation in February 2020 (Chart II.12). In terms of components, the price

Chart II.12: Exclusion-based CPI Inflation (y-o-y)

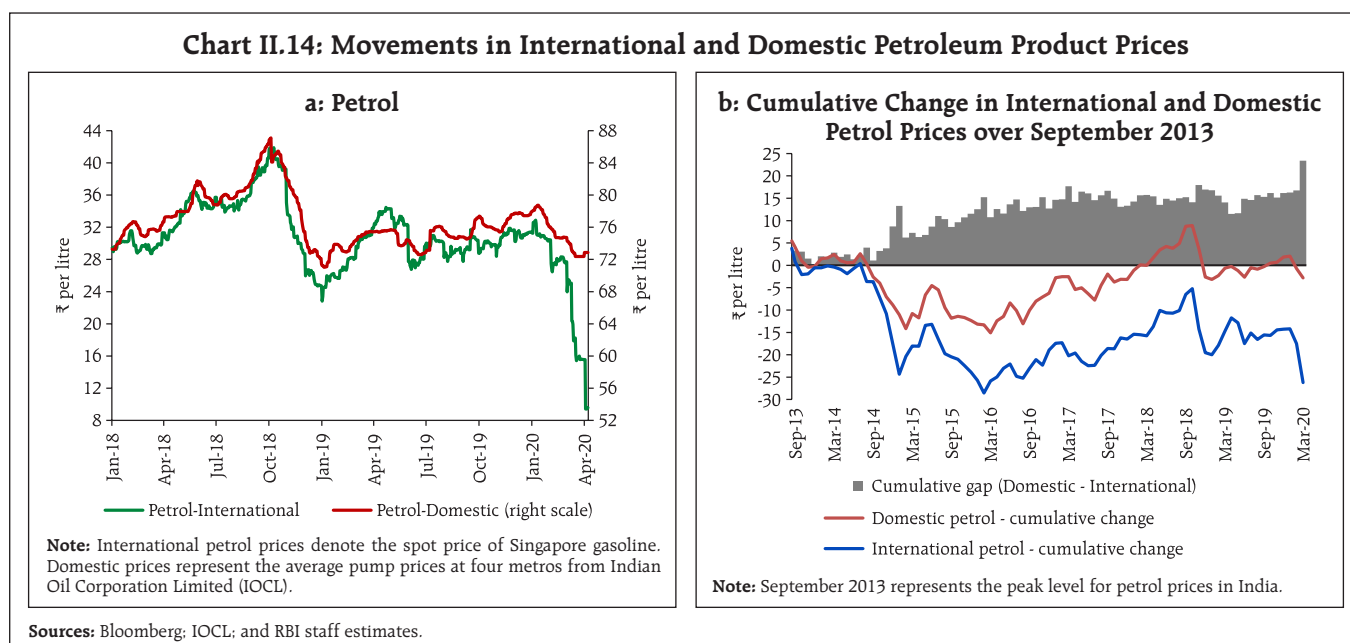




build-up during 2019-20 was much lower than historical averages, barring for the transport and communication, and personal care and effects sub-groups (Chart II.13).

Volatile movements in international crude oil prices and the consequent increase in domestic pump prices mainly contributed to the upturn in CPI excluding food and fuel inflation till January 2020 and the subsequent moderation in February.

CPI petrol and diesel, which was in deflation for 11 months till November 2019, saw a sharp uptick in inflation during December 2019-January 2020 before moderating in February. Volatility in crude oil prices in H2:2019-20 emanated from a series of events starting with rising geo-political tensions in early September, followed by production cuts by the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)-plus in early December and renewed geo-political tensions in early January. Crude oil prices moderated sharply from mid-January on easing of geo-political tensions, price war between OPEC and Russia, and fears of a global recession due to COVID-19. While the pass-through of collapse in international crude oil prices to domestic pump prices is still unfolding, its extent has been tempered by increases in taxes on petrol and diesel (Chart II.14a). Excise duties for petrol and diesel were increased by ₹ 3 per litre each on March 14, 2020 as international crude oil prices tumbled below US\$ 40 per barrel. With this increase, the total excise duty on petrol and diesel works out to ₹ 22.98 per litre and ₹ 18.83 per litre, respectively. The divergence between international and domestic pump prices has now widened to highest levels seen in the recent period (Chart II.14b).



CPI inflation excluding food, fuel, petrol and diesel troughed in December, before registering a sharp increase in Q4 so far (January-February). CPI inflation excluding food, fuel, petrol, diesel, gold, silver – which further excludes the volatile gold and silver price effects – also saw similar movements (Chart II.12).

A break-up of CPI excluding food, fuel, petrol and diesel into its good and services components, shows the impact of cost-push factors which reversed a sharp moderation in inflation in this category and hardened it during December 2019- January 2020 (Chart II.15).

Core goods prices inflation moderated sequentially till December 2019, caused by a broad-based fall in inflation across goods items, particularly health inflation due to large and favourable base effects. Goods inflation has been ticking up since January due to firming up of prices of clothing, pan, tobacco, medicines in the health sub-group following an increase in administered prices of essential medicines and automobiles in the transport and communication sub-group due to a rise in input costs and a switch-over in emission norms to BS-VI (Chart II.15a).

Core services inflation moderated sharply during October-November 2019 due to a fall in inflation in domestic maid/cook and other household services; tuition fees in education services; house rentals; transport fares and mobile telephone charges under transportation and communication services. Mobile telephone charges have, however, increased (by close to 12 per cent between November 2019 and February 2020), following the increase in tariffs by major private mobile operators in early December. Bus fares and administered railway fares also increased during this period. As a result, transport and communication services inflation registered significant increases, pushing up overall services inflation. Reflecting subdued demand conditions, housing inflation softened throughout H2:2019-20. Education services inflation also remained soft during December 2019-February 2020 (Chart II.15b).

Other Measures of Inflation

Inflation in sectoral CPIs, *i.e.*, for industrial workers (CPI-IW), agricultural labourers (CPI-AL) and rural labourers (CPI-RL), increased sharply during

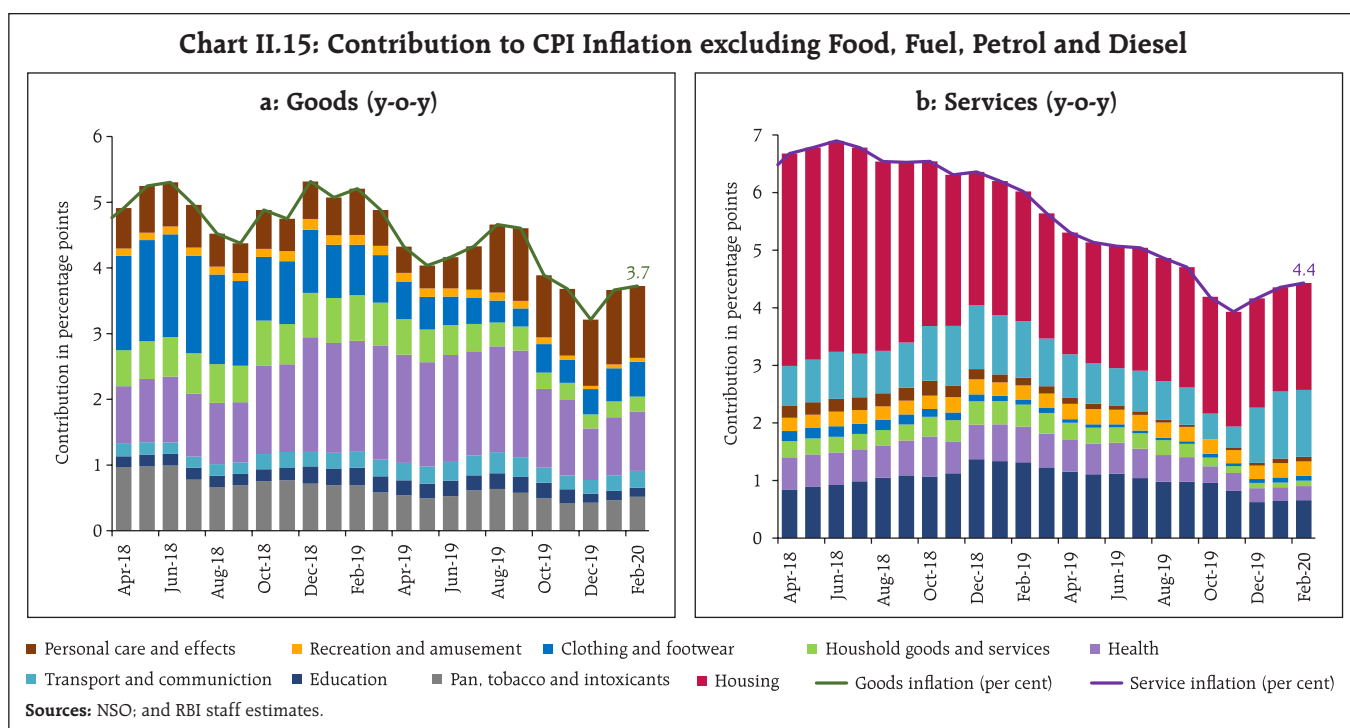
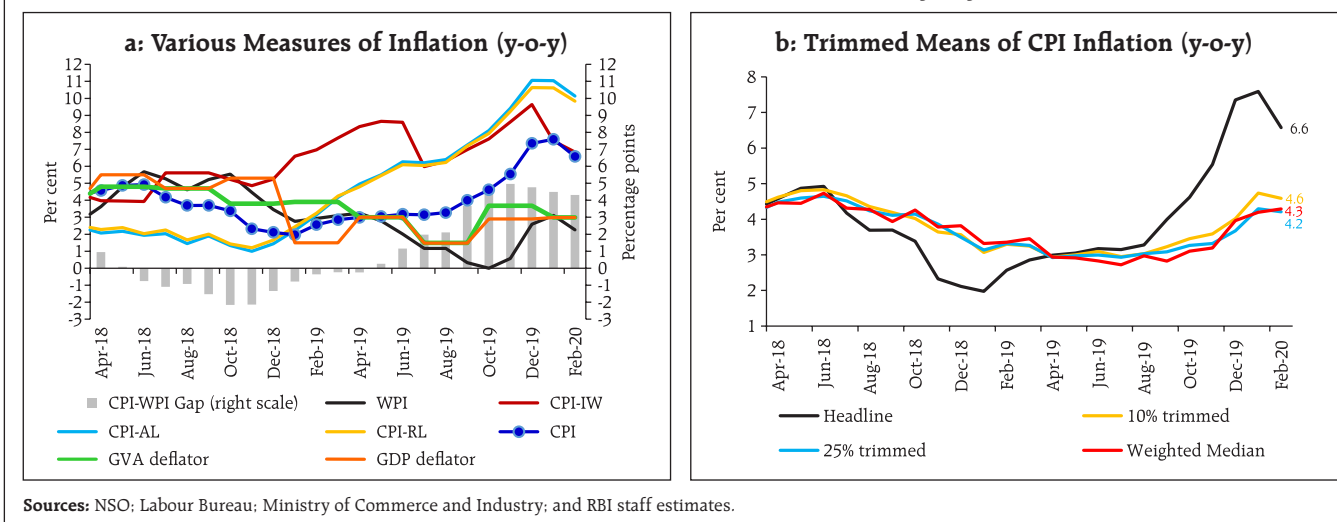


Chart II.16: Alternative Inflation Measures (y-o-y)



August-December 2019, driven up primarily by the unseasonal rise in food prices. The pace of increase, however, softened in January-February 2020, on the back of cooling of prices in the food group. Inflation in food and fuel components of CPI-AL and CPI-RL was higher than that in headline CPI. A larger share of food nudged overall inflation measured by these indices to double digit levels during December 2019-February 2020.

In the case of CPI-IW, with the complete waning of the house rent allowance impact of the seventh central pay commission (CPC) after December 2019, inflation registered a sharp fall, closing the gap with headline CPI. Notwithstanding this ebbing, the latest increase in momentum in housing index in CPI-IW – which is revised once in six months, in January and July every year – contributed the largest upward push to CPI-IW in January 2020 (with a m-o-m increase of 3.7 percentage points). CPI-IW inflation decreased further in February 2020 due to sharp correction in food prices by 1.7 percentage points.

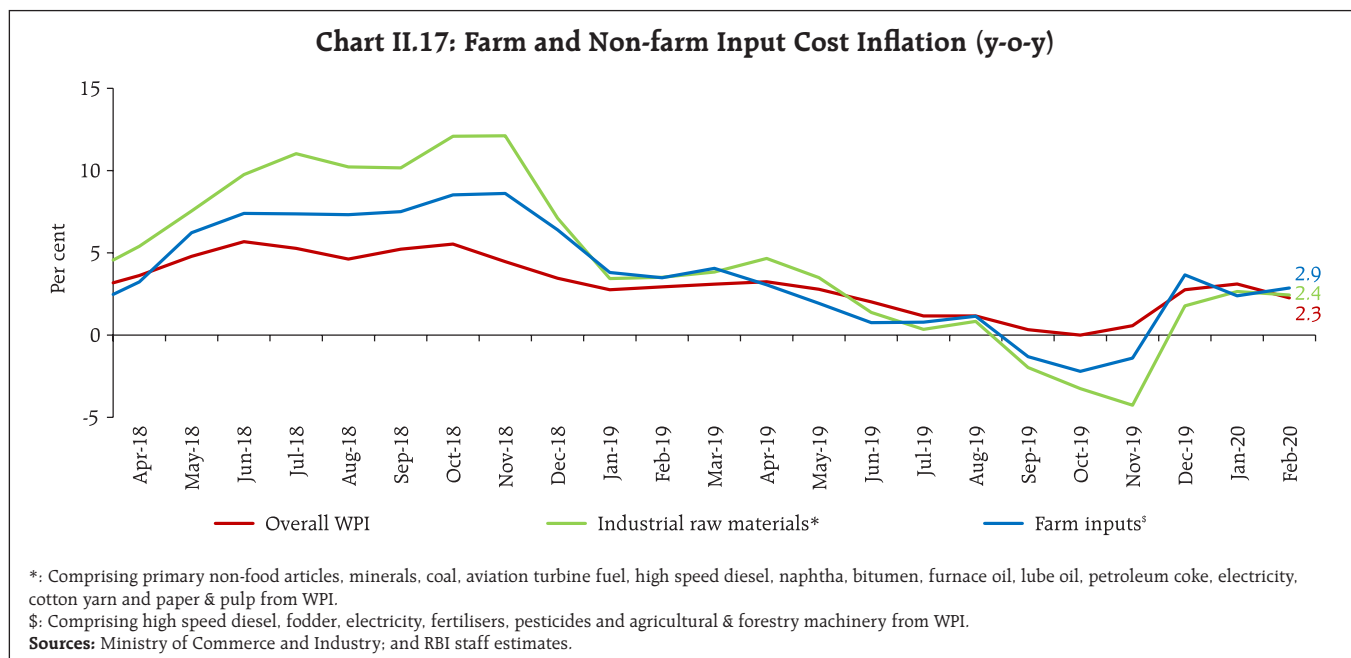
Inflation in terms of the wholesale price index (WPI) fell during August-October 2019 in sharp contrast to the sectoral CPIs, due to a decline in prices of non-food manufactured products on account of the

softening of global commodity prices. Subsequently, WPI inflation edged up in line with sectoral CPIs as wholesale food prices rose in December 2019-January 2020 before moderating again in February with easing of food prices. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Gross Value Added (GVA) deflators picked up in Q3:2019-20 after reaching a record low in Q2:2019-20, indicating a clear divergence with CPI and a broad alignment with WPI (Chart II.16a).

Trimmed mean measures of inflation, obtained by statistically removing outliers and eliminating positive and negative skew, provide a measure of underlying inflation movements. Exclusion based measures of CPI also capture persistent trends in inflation by removing components that are considered idiosyncratic. Over the last six months, both trimmed means and exclusion-based measures, have firmed up (Charts II.12 and II.16b).

II.3 Costs

Underlying cost conditions have largely been in sync with inflation in terms of the WPI (Chart II.17). Inflation in terms of farm inputs and industrial raw material prices (extracted from WPI) moderated significantly after April 2019 and remained in negative territory during September-November 2019, before



registering a pick up during December 2019-February 2020. The pick-up during December 2019-January 2020 partly reflected recovery in prices of global crude oil and petrochemicals as well as adverse base effects. In addition, cost of minerals and non-food articles also influenced the recent price dynamics of non-farm input costs.

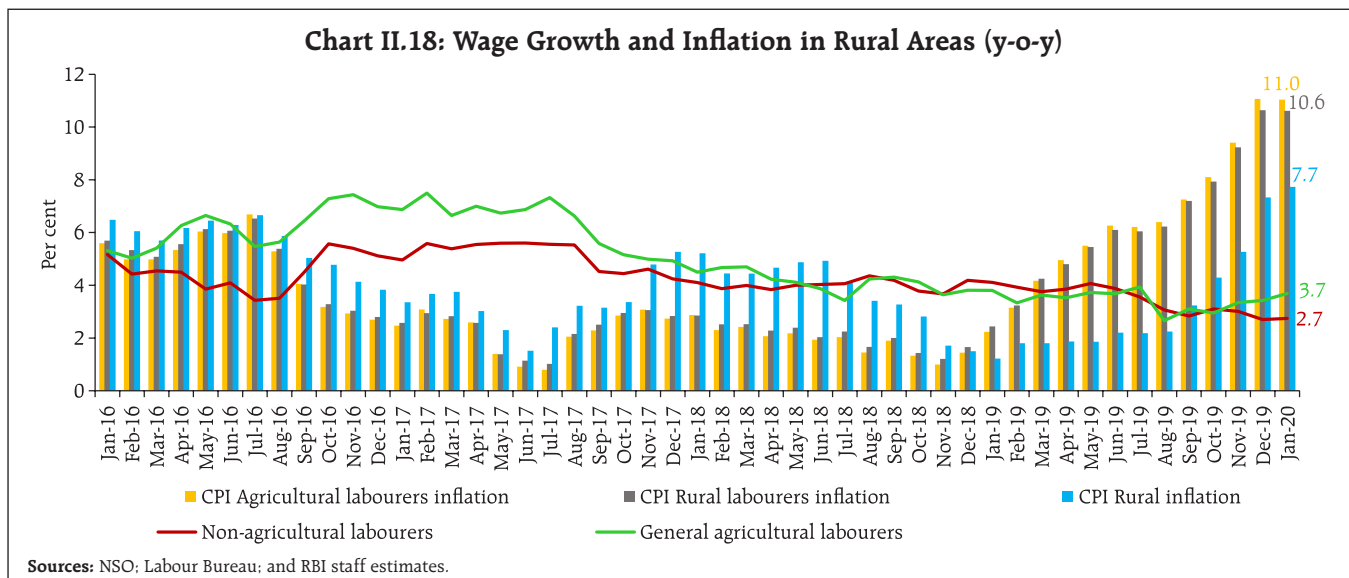
Among other industrial raw materials, domestic coal inflation picked up to 2.4 per cent during October 2019-February 2020 from 0.4 per cent in April 2019 in line with the increase in international coal prices. Prices of paper and paper products remained in deflation during July 2019-February 2020 due to lower raw material cost, including that of pulp. In the case of fibres, deflation persisted during August 2019-February 2020, following easing in prices of raw cotton and coir fibre, which also reflected in the contraction in cotton yarn prices during the same period.

As regards farm sector inputs, inflation hardened in the case of fodder due to unseasonal rains, while some easing was observed in the case of fertilisers and pesticides reflecting generally subdued momentum in international fertiliser prices. Prices of electricity,

which carry a high weight in both industrial and farm inputs, recorded a modest increase during the year, reflecting weak demand conditions. Inflation in terms of agricultural machinery and implements costs has also softened gradually during the current financial year.

Growth in nominal rural wages, both for agricultural and non-agricultural labourers, remained subdued averaging around 3.4 per cent and 3.3 per cent, respectively, during 2019-20 so far (up to January 2020) mainly reflecting continued slowdown in the construction sector (Chart II.18). With a sharp rise in rural retail inflation, however, real rural wage growth has been negative as derived from CPI-AL and CPI-RL measures since March 2019 and CPI-rural inflation since September 2019.

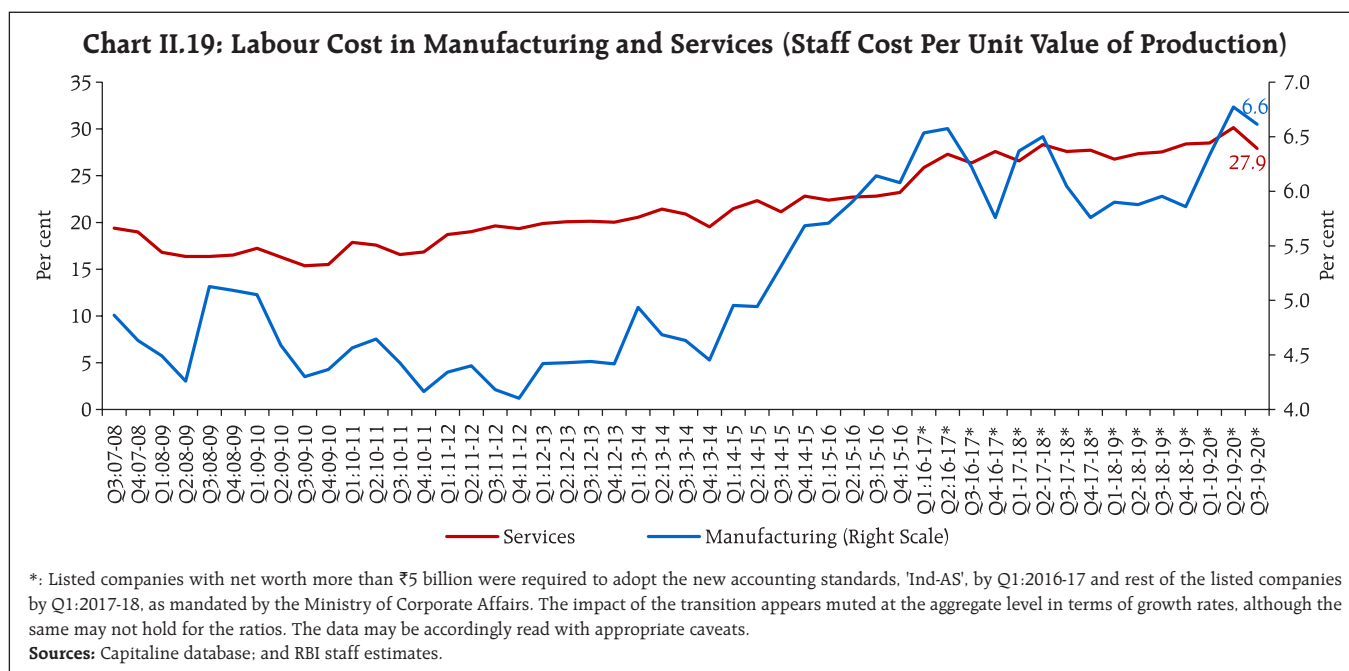
Growth in organised sector staff costs showed divergent movements for services and manufacturing firms. While staff cost growth of services firms increased in Q3:2019-20 over the previous quarter, it declined for manufacturing firms. Unit labour costs (ratio of staff cost to value of production in percentage terms) for companies in the manufacturing sector increased



sequentially from 5.9 per cent in Q4:2018-19 to 6.3 per cent in Q1:2019-20 and further to 6.8 per cent in Q2 due to sequential decline in the value of production, alongside an increase in staff cost. In Q3:2019-20, unit labour cost for manufacturing moderated marginally. On the other hand, higher quarterly growth in value of production for firms in the services sector led to a fall of 220 basis points in unit labour cost from 30.1

per cent in Q2:2019-20 to 27.9 per cent in Q3 even as staff cost increased somewhat (Chart II.19).

Manufacturing firms participating in the Reserve Bank's industrial outlook survey reported muted cost pressures in Q3:2019-20 and Q4. This reflected softening of inflation in farm and industrial raw materials in Q3 and weak metal and other commodity price pressures in Q4. A decline in cost of finance



*: Listed companies with net worth more than ₹5 billion were required to adopt the new accounting standards, 'Ind-AS', by Q1:2016-17 and rest of the listed companies by Q1:2017-18, as mandated by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs. The impact of the transition appears muted at the aggregate level in terms of growth rates, although the same may not hold for the ratios. The data may be accordingly read with appropriate caveats.

was also reported by the companies polled in Q3 and Q4. Cost pressures on account of salary outgoes also fell in Q3 and are expected to have remained weak in Q4. Weak demand conditions and muted input price pressures kept selling prices soft, with expectations showing only a muted uptick in Q4. While producers' price expectations were subdued, inflation expectations of households, as measured in the Reserve Bank survey, softened.

Manufacturing firms polled for the purchasing managers' index (PMI) reported modest increases in input prices and stable output prices in Q4. Input prices, however, firmed up markedly in case of the PMI services firms in Q4 (up to February) driven by higher food, labour and material costs before slowing sharply in March 2020 amid lower food and fuel prices, and reduced demand. Prices charged by services firms remained broadly range bound in Q3 and Q4 but softened in March 2020 with some firms reducing their fees due to weak demand conditions.

II.4 Conclusion

The inflation landscape changed dramatically during H2:2019-20 primarily on account of wide swings in onion prices. In Q4:2019-20, before the intensification of COVID-19, forward looking surveys were already indicating weak consumer confidence and low pricing power of firms. Since March 2020 the inflation outlook has become highly uncertain due to the COVID-19 outbreak turning into a pandemic. Crude oil prices have collapsed to lows not seen since early 2000s. With several major economies in lockdown mode, demand conditions may weaken sharply. Accordingly, countries across the world are bracing up for deflationary forces to take hold. India may not be immune to these extreme downside pressures imparted by the pandemic. With the entire country in lockdown, the NSO would face considerable challenges in compilation and measurement of consumer prices.

III. Demand and Output

The deterioration in aggregate demand conditions in 2019-20, was exacerbated by contraction in investment, and moderation in government expenditure in H2. On the supply side, agriculture and allied activities accelerated, buoyed by the late surge in south-west monsoon rainfall and bountiful north-east monsoon precipitation. However, industrial growth decelerated, led by a slowdown in manufacturing activity. Services sector activity moderated, pulled down by a slowdown in construction; trade, hotels, transport and communication; and public administration, defence and other services.

The February 2020 data release by the National Statistical Office (NSO) reveals that a sequential slowdown set in upon the Indian economy from Q1:2018-19. Over H2:2018-19 and H1:2019-20, real GDP growth lost momentum further, averaging 5.5 per cent. The sub-5 per cent reading for Q3:2019-20 (4.7 per cent) has caused heightened uncertainty about the outlook. The oppressive force of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) on weak or moderating high frequency indicators of activity, barring agriculture, indicates that the implicit real GDP growth for Q4:2019-20 in the NSO's data release could be undershot by a fair margin. In fact, the widening incidence of COVID-19 in March 2020 may produce downward pulls to Q4 GDP.

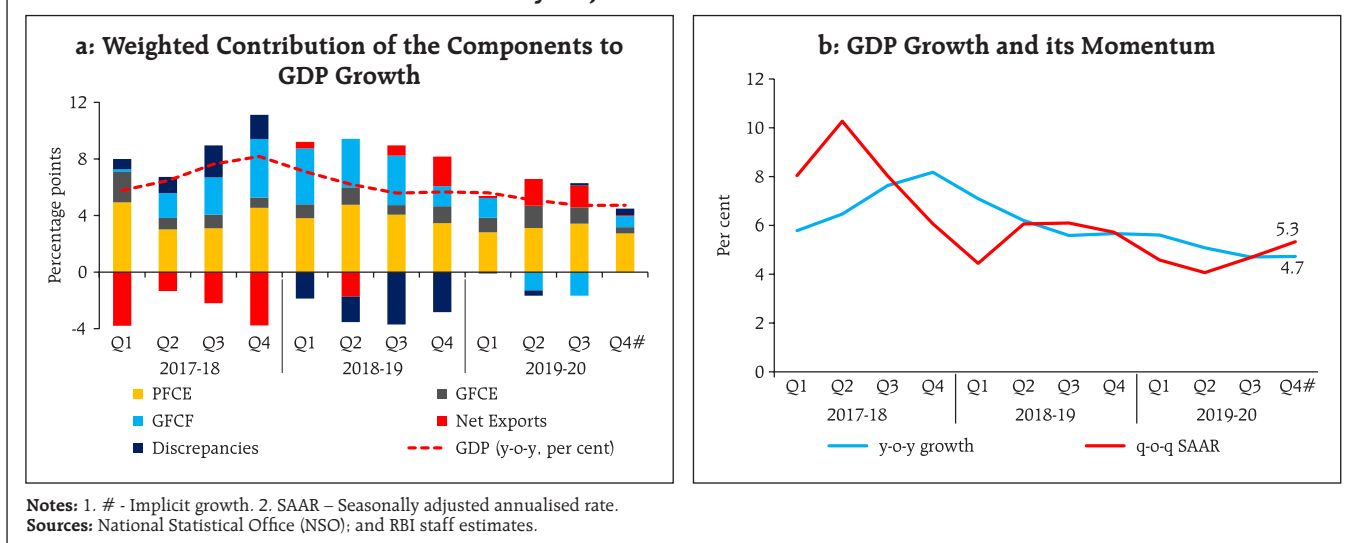
Underlying this marked downturn relative to recent experience is the contraction in gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) from Q2:2019-20. Consumption demand accelerated and sustained overall demand, driven mainly by a sharp pick up in government final consumption expenditure (GFCE). Net exports also contributed positively to aggregate demand, but essentially because the contraction in imports outpaced the decline in exports. On the supply side, agriculture and allied activities imparted momentum to gross value

added (GVA) in Q2 and Q3, buoyed by increases in *kharif* and horticulture production. The industrial sector remained moribund, bound down by weak demand conditions, and hence weak pricing power. In the services sector, activity has been weakening through H2:2019-20 with high frequency indicators for January and February 2020 either moderating or declining, barring PMI, cement production and railway freight traffic. Public administration, defence and other services (PADO) remained robust in Q2 and Q3. However, during January-February 2020, centre's revenue expenditure excluding interest payments and subsidies grew marginally. Beginning March, the lockdown in the wake of the outbreak of COVID-19 has choked manufacturing activities. Anecdotal evidence suggests that in the manufacturing sector, dislocations of labour adversely impacted automobiles, electronic goods and appliances, and apparel. Services such as trade, tourism, airlines, the hospitality sector and construction have been hit hard.

III.1 Aggregate Demand

The deterioration in aggregate demand conditions in 2019-20, was exacerbated by contraction (1.3 per cent) in gross fixed capital formation, and moderation in government expenditure in H2. Although private consumption held up in sequential terms, it was slower in H2:2019-20 on a y-o-y basis (Chart III.1a and Table III.1). Overall, the drag on GDP growth in H2:2019-20 can be decoded to unfavourable base effects, since momentum – measured by the q-o-q seasonally adjusted annualised growth rate (SAAR) - accelerated in H2 (Chart III.1b). With COVID-19 having taken a grievous toll in February and particularly in March, it is unlikely that this momentum was sustained as the year closed. Accordingly, the NSO's estimate of real GDP growth for the year as a whole at 5.0 per cent in 2019-20, which itself was down from 6.1 per cent in 2018-19, may be at risk.

Chart III.1: Seasonally Adjusted GDP Growth and its Constituents



In the absence of hard data on underlying activity from traditional sources, availability of high frequency information in large volumes, either structured or unstructured, varying in form and content, has opened up avenues for extracting meaningful signals

on the state of the economy. A sentiment index (SI), prepared on the basis of daily news feed in print media is able to track economic activity relatively well in the Indian context. The SI indicates weak activity in Q4:2019-20 (Box III.1).

Table III.1: Real GDP Growth

(y-o-y, per cent)

Item	2018-19 (FRE)	2019-20 (SAE)	Weighted Contribution*		2018-19 (FRE)				2019-20 (SAE)			
			2018-19	2019-20	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4#
Private final consumption expenditure	7.2	5.3	4.0	3.0	6.7	8.8	7.0	6.2	5.0	5.6	5.9	4.9
Government final consumption expenditure	10.1	9.8	1.0	1.0	8.5	10.8	7.0	14.4	8.8	13.2	11.8	4.9
Gross fixed capital formation	9.8	-0.6	3.0	-0.2	12.9	11.5	11.4	4.4	4.3	-4.1	-5.2	2.5
Exports	12.3	-1.9	2.4	-0.4	9.5	12.5	15.8	11.6	3.2	-2.1	-5.5	-2.8
Imports	8.6	-5.5	2.0	-1.3	5.9	18.7	10.0	0.8	2.1	-9.3	-11.2	-3.0
GDP at market prices	6.1	5.0	6.1	5.0	7.1	6.2	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.1	4.7	4.7

FRE: First Revised Estimates; SAE: Second Advance Estimates; #: Implicit growth.

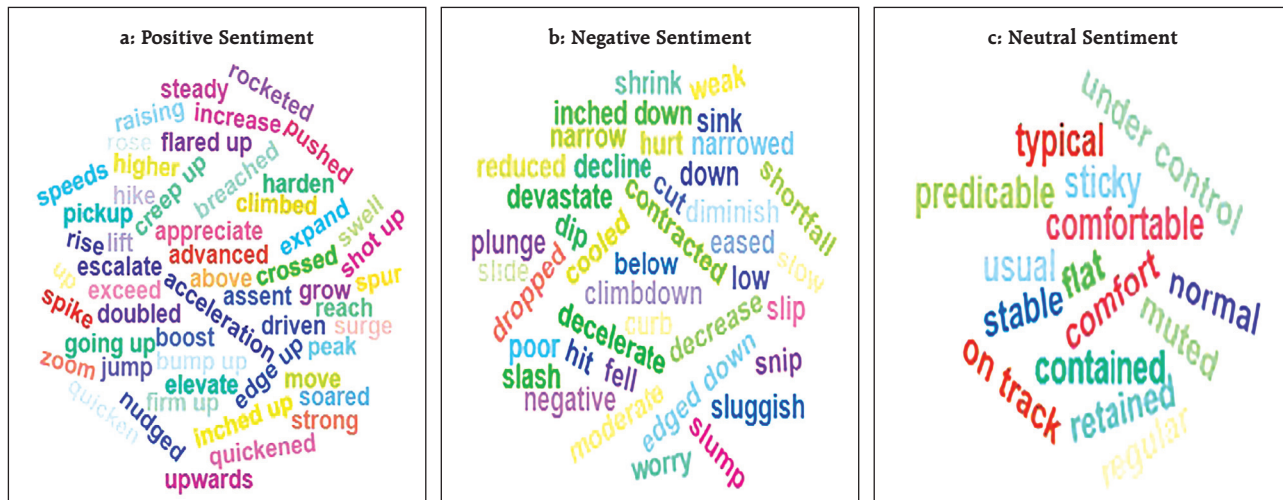
*: Component-wise contributions to growth do not add up to GDP growth in the table because change in stocks, valuables and discrepancies are not included.

Source: NSO.

Box: III.1: Media Sentiments on Economic Growth – A Machine Learning Approach

Big data tools and machine learning (ML) techniques such as natural language processing (NLP) and text mining have facilitated extraction and construction of numerical indicators out of news text (Shapiro *et. al.* 2018). The broad approach is to extract sentiment from daily news items pertaining to variables of interest (Godbole *et. al.* 2007). Each news item is classified into one of three sentiment classes, *viz.*, positive, negative and neutral, based on the words present in the news. News items with no sentiments or those that are unrelated are discarded. A sentiment class explicitly represents words with similar semantic orientation as illustrated below (Chart III.1.1).

Chart III.1.1: Semantic Orientation of Words



Source: RBI staff estimates.

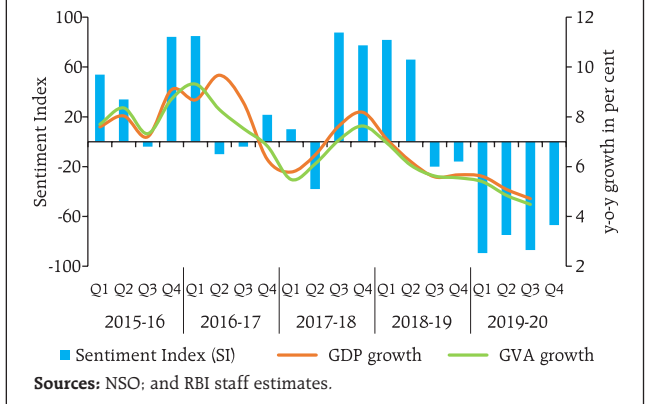
Relevant news items under positive/ negative/ neutral sentiment class are consolidated and summarised into a Sentiment Index (SI)¹, as defined below:

$$SI = \text{news items with "positive" sentiment (\%)} - \text{news items with "negative" sentiment (\%)}$$

For this analysis, daily news feeds for the period April 2015 to March 2020 have been sourced from media intelligence firm (Meltwater) and aggregated to derive a quarterly Sentiment Index to track upturns and downturns in year-on-year (y-o-y) growth in real GDP and GVA (Chart III.1.2).

The association between sentiment index and economic activity (GDP or GVA growth) is measured in terms of correlation. Directional precision is measured in terms of a Sign Success Ratio (SSR)² which is the proportion of time periods when the direction indicated by SI matches the directional change in GDP/GVA growth and is defined as follows:

Chart III.1.2: Sentiment vis-a-vis GDP and GVA Growth



- (a) Denote IG_t as the variable representing whether the year on year growth for the quarter t has increased/ decreased/ remained same sequentially and defined by
(contd.)

¹ The range of SI is -100 to 100. While a positive (negative) value of SI indicates optimism/ improvement (pessimism/deterioration), a zero value is associated with neutral sentiment.

² A high value of SSR, which is close to 100 in a scale of 0 to 100, indicates that media sentiment is able to gauge directional changes in the macroeconomic variables of interest (Buono *et. al.* 2018).

$$IG_t = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } G_t > G_{t-1} \\ 2, & \text{if } G_t < G_{t-1} \\ 3, & \text{if } G_t = G_{t-1} \end{cases} \dots (1)$$

where, G_t is Y-o-Y growth in GDP or GVA for quarter t .

(b) Denote MS_t as the variable indicating whether the sentiment index for the quarter t is positive/negative/neutral and defined by

$$MS_t = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } SI_t > 0 \\ 2, & \text{if } SI_t < 0 \\ 3, & \text{if } SI_t = 0 \end{cases} \dots (2)$$

(c) Denote I_t as an indicator function for the quarter t capturing whether the sequential direction of GDP/GVA growth and the sentiment index of the quarter are directionally matching or not. It is defined by

$$I_j = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } MS_t = IG_t \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \dots (3)$$

Under the above settings, the sign success ratio (SSR) is defined as

$$SSR = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n I_j}{n} * 100 \dots (4)$$

where n is the total number of quarters under consideration (during Q1: 2015-16 to Q3:2019-20).

The Sentiment index is found to be strongly correlated with both GDP and GVA growth and it is able to gauge the directional change satisfactorily (Table III.1.1). Sentiment index reveals subdued economic activities for the fourth quarter of 2019-20.

Table III.1.1: Statistical Association between SI and GDP/GVA Growth

	GDP growth (Y-o-Y)	GVA growth (Y-o-Y)
Correlation with SI	0.62*	0.71*
SSR of SI (%)	58	74

*Statistically significant at 5 per cent level of significance
Sources: NSO; and RBI staff estimates.

Unconventional big data sources, such as news in online print media that are available on a high frequency basis complement survey-based gauges of the pulse of the economy. However, machine learning techniques are usually difficult to comprehend with macroeconomic interlinkages and are generally treated as additional monitoring techniques.

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Buono, D., Kapetanios, G., Marcellino, M., Mazzi, G., and Papailias, F. (2018), "Big Data Econometrics: Now Casting and Early Estimates", Milan, Bocconi University, Baffi-Carefin Centre working paper 82.

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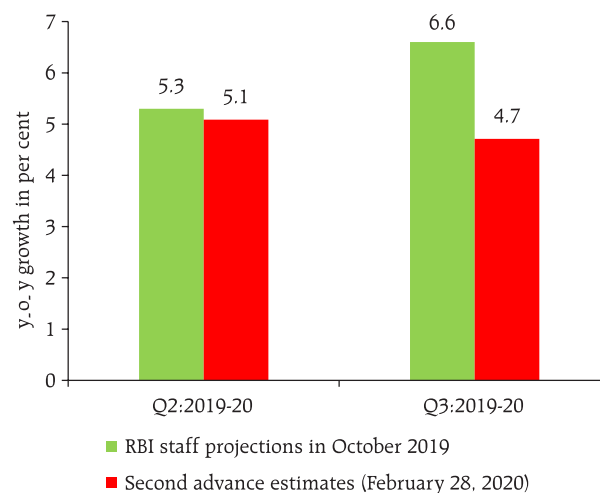
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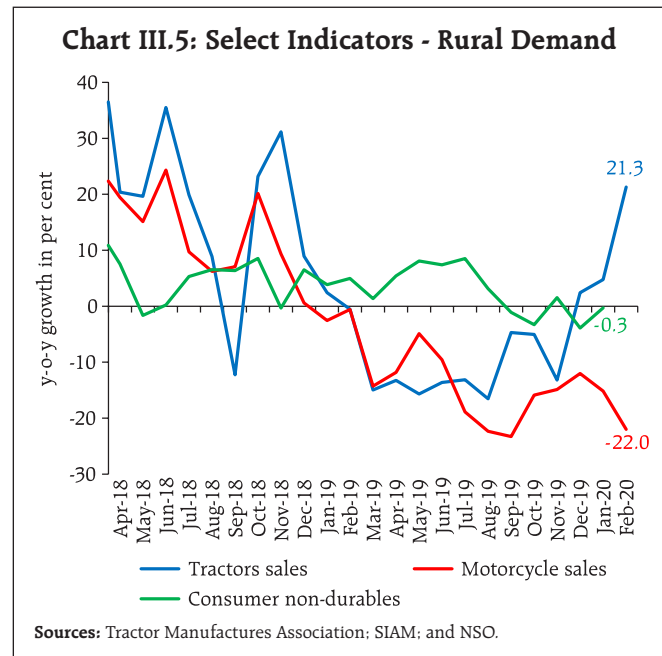
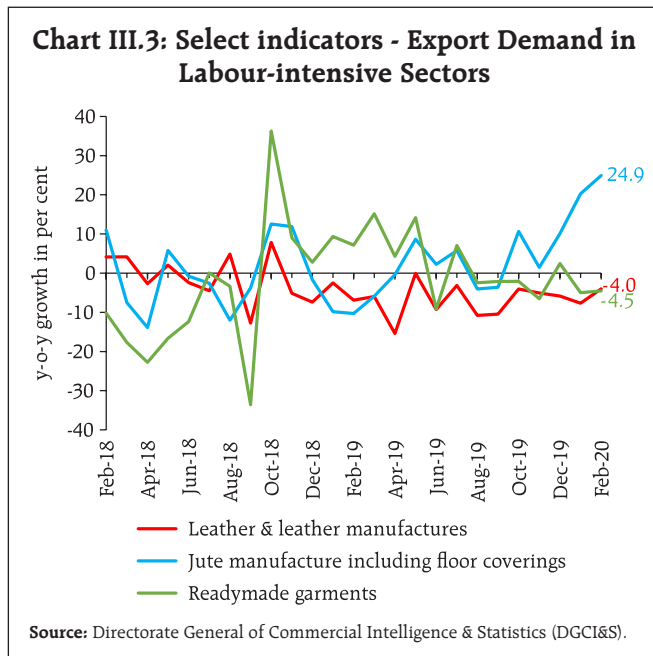
GDP Projections versus Actual Outcomes

The October 2019 Monetary Policy Report (MPR) projected GDP growth at 5.3 per cent for Q2:2019-20, 6.6 per cent for Q3 and 7.2 per cent for Q4, with risks evenly balanced around this baseline path (Chart III.2). Actual outcomes in terms of the NSO's second advance estimates (SAE) undershot these projections by 20 and 190 basis points in Q2 and Q3, respectively. The downward surprise in Q2 stemmed from a stronger than anticipated drag from gross fixed capital formation and marginal weakness in private final consumption expenditure. In Q3, projection errors emanated mainly from a steep unanticipated contraction in gross fixed capital formation, which was the deepest in the new series of GDP.

Chart III.2: GDP Growth - Projections versus Actual



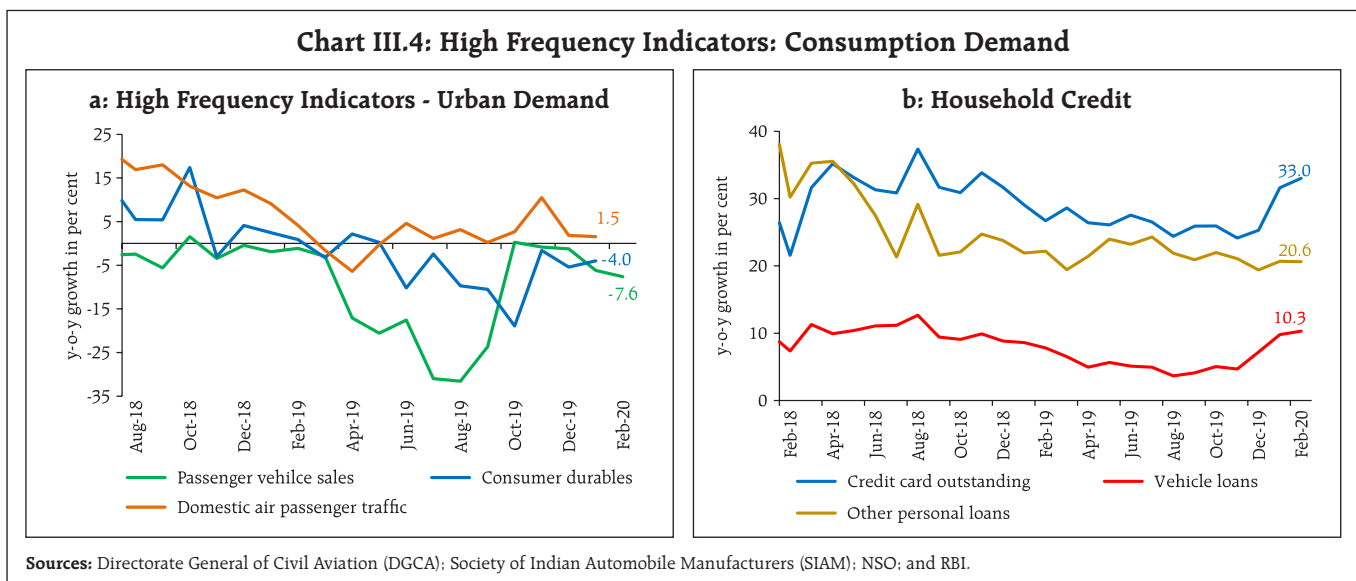
Sources: NSO; and RBI staff estimates.



III.1.1 Private Final Consumption Expenditure

Private final consumption expenditure (PFCE) remains the mainstay of aggregate demand, with its share at 57.6 per cent in H2:2019-20. The slowdown in PFCE in H2:2019-20 was caused by a combination of factors — weak rural demand due to depressed food prices/inflation in the previous two years; deceleration in rural wages; and downturn in labour-intensive exports which impacted rural consumption; and slowdown in urban consumption due to decelerating incomes (Chart III.3).

High frequency indicators of urban consumption demand present a subdued picture for Q4:2019-20 (Chart III.4a). Sales of passenger vehicles continued to contract in February 2020. Domestic air passenger traffic growth slowed in January 2020. Consumer durables growth contracted in January 2020. Even though there has been some uptick in vehicle loan growth for households and growth in credit card outstanding in February 2020, overall, urban consumption appears to have lost steam in Q4 with the outbreak of COVID-19 having accentuated the moderation (Chart III.4b).



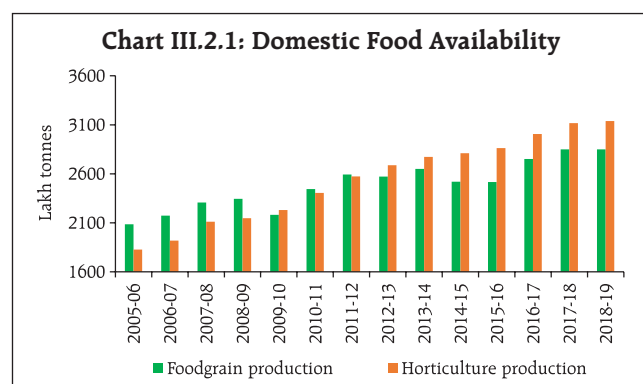
Among the indicators of rural consumption, motorcycle sales remained in contraction in February 2020 (Chart III.5). This sector faces some uncertainty following the change in emission norms, which was to be effective from April. Tractor

sales, however, improved in January and steadied further in February 2020, reflecting improved *rabi* sowing. The consumer non-durable segment remained in contraction, reflecting weak rural demand (Box III.2).

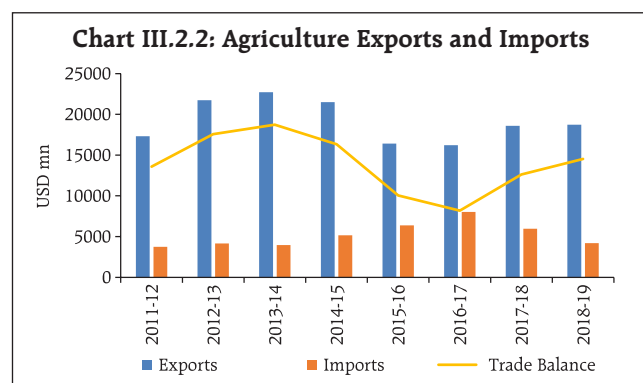
Box III.2: What Ails Rural Demand?

The performance of agriculture is key to the state of rural demand. In recent years, the terms of trade (ToT) have moved against the farm economy, with back-to-back bumper harvests during 2016, 2017 and 2018 causing a decline in some food prices/inflation (Chart III.2.1). In the face of a global food supply glut, India's exports of agricultural products were affected and consequently, they could not fulfil their usual vent for surplus role (Chart III.2.2). The excess supply resulting in an accumulation of stocks depressed agriculture commodities prices/inflation even further (Chart III.2.3).

The index of inter-sectoral ToT, *i.e.*, the ratio of agriculture GVA deflator to non-agriculture GVA deflator declined between 2016-17 and 2018-19 (Chart III.2.4). An alternative

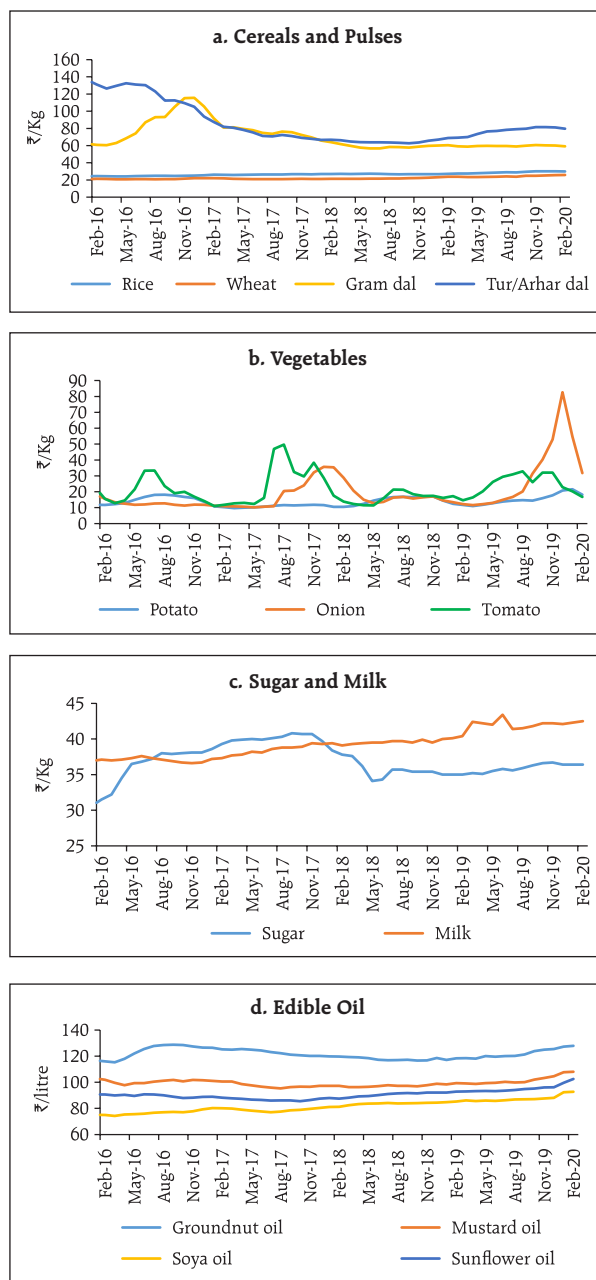


Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare (MOAFW).



Source: Agricultural & Processed Foods Product Export Development Authority.

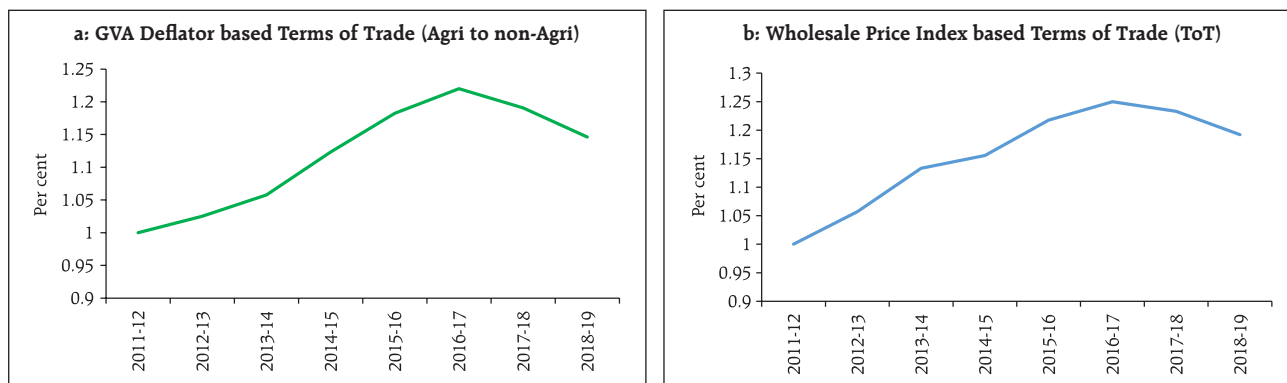
Chart III.2.3: Wholesale Prices of Major Essential Agricultural Commodities



Source: Department of Consumer Affairs, Government of India.

(contd.)

Chart III.2.4: Inter-sectoral Terms of Trade between Agriculture and Non-Agriculture



Sources: NSO; Office of Economic Adviser; and RBI staff estimates.

measure – the ratio of the wholesale price index (WPI) between agriculture and non-agriculture (excluding services) – corroborates this loss of ToT.

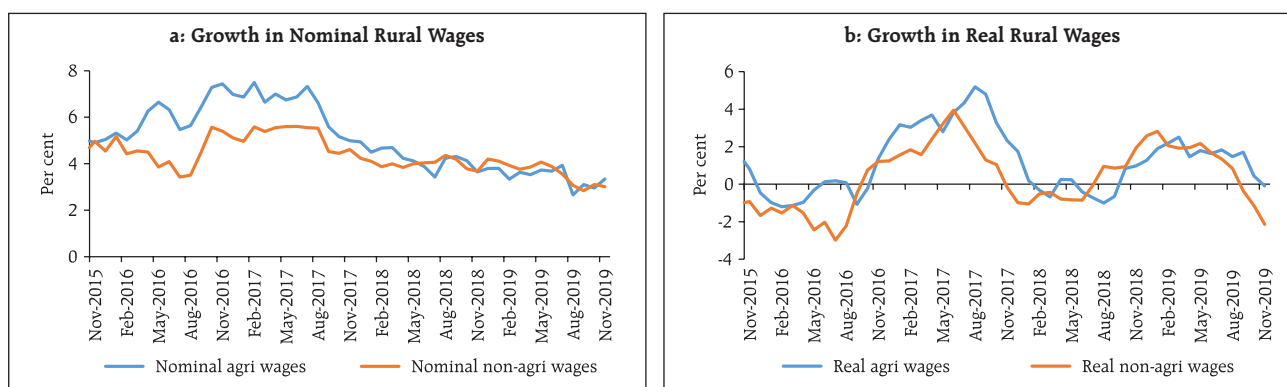
Alongside these developments, growth in rural wages has remained subdued, particularly for agricultural labour in both nominal and real terms, partly due to the slowdown in the construction sector (Chart III.2.5).

Moreover, in recent years, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) scheme does not seem to support rural income much due to delayed wage payments, lower wages and insufficient budgetary allocations. The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) report released by the NSO in May 2019 shows that wages under MGNREGA work are lower than the market wage rate for non-public work by 74 per cent for rural men and 21 per cent for rural women.

The recent outbreak of COVID-19 and the subsequent lockdown enforced in the country are expected to bring down the aggregate demand drastically, both in rural and urban areas. The Government has announced a slew of measures like direct cash transfer to farmers, hiking wages under the MGNREGA scheme, and utilisation of welfare funds for construction workers to offset the adverse impact on rural demand. However, given the severity of the pandemic, rural demand is expected to go down further at least in the near future.

In conclusion, unusually lower agriculture prices, slowdown in the construction sector and below average performance of the flagship MGNREGA programme have contributed to lower farm incomes, deceleration in rural wages and loss of employment opportunities in the rural sector and, more so, in the wake of COVID-19.

Chart III.2.5: Growth in Nominal and Real Rural Wages



Sources: Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment; and RBI staff estimates.

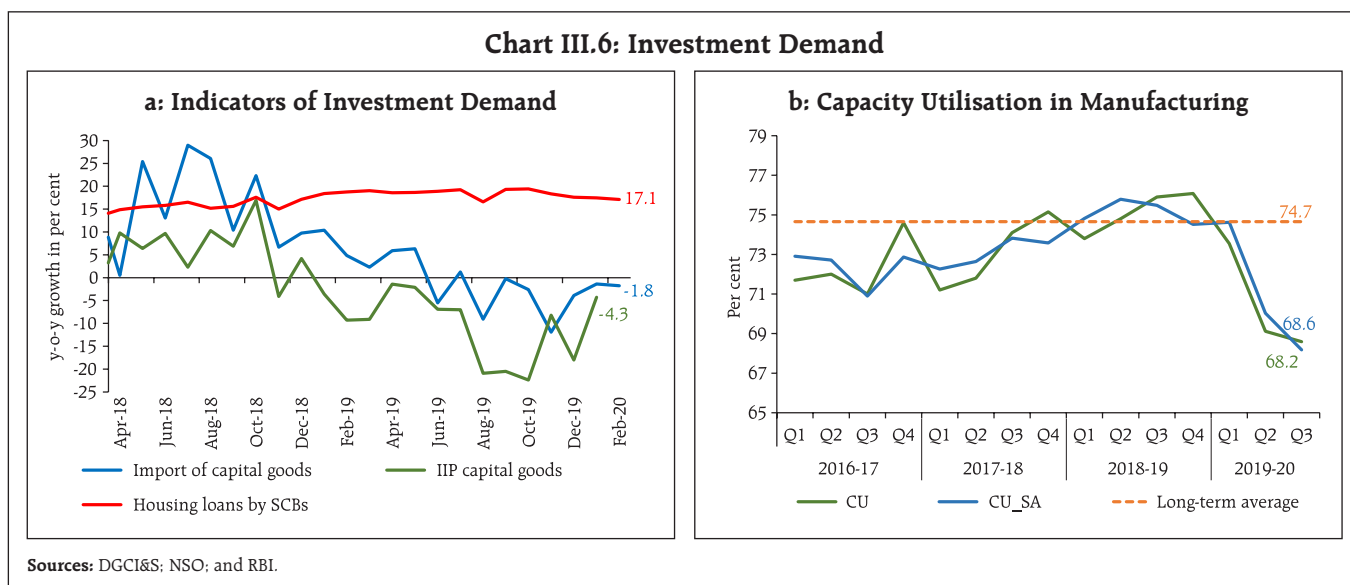
III.1.2 Gross Fixed Capital Formation

Gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) growth turned negative in Q2 and Q3:2019-20. Consequently, the share of GFCF in GDP dropped to 30.2 per cent in 2019-20 from 31.9 per cent a year ago. Two key indicators of investment demand, *viz.*, production and imports of capital goods have remained in contraction in January/February 2020 as well (Chart III.6a). As regards construction activity, finished steel consumption contracted in February, while cement production grew significantly. The performance of software firms – a proxy for investment in intellectual property products – has remained resilient, as evident from the latest financial results. Seasonally adjusted capacity utilisation (CU-SA) in the manufacturing sector declined below the long-term average in Q3:2019-20, corroborating that the need for fresh investment is depressed as also reflected in a slowdown in adjusted non-food bank credit (ANFC) (Chart III.6b).

Half-yearly unaudited financial statements of listed non-government non-financial (NGNF) companies suggest a rise in the capex ratio³ in H1:2019-20 from H2:2018-19 across major

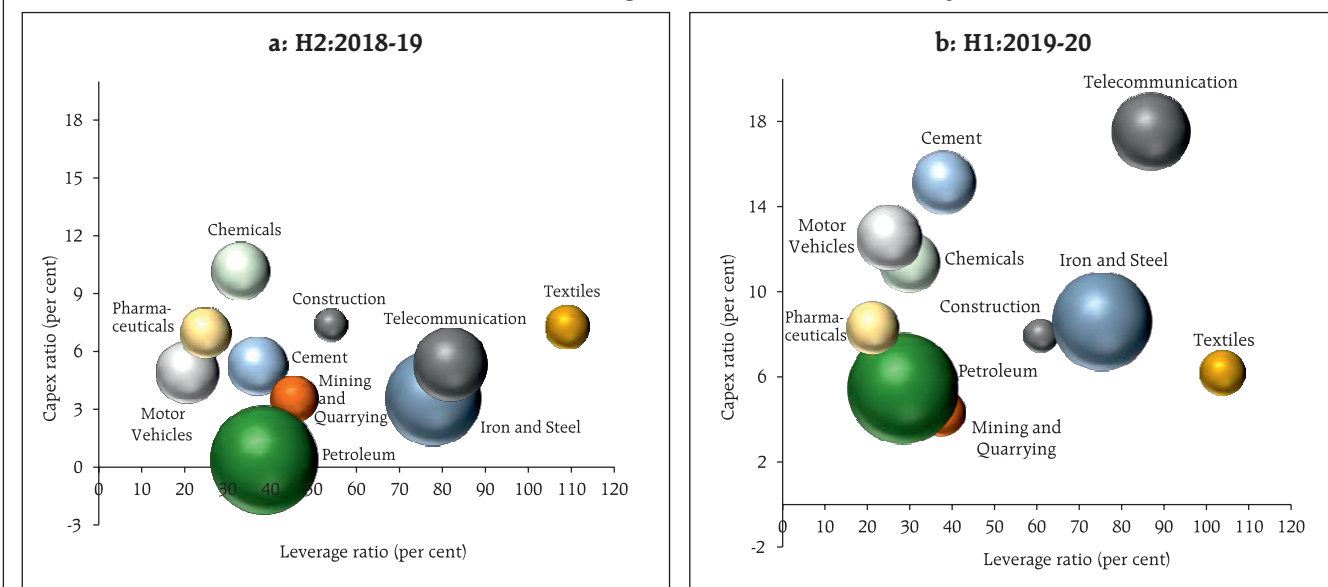
industries such as motor vehicles, cement, petroleum, telecommunications and construction (Chart III.7). Funds mobilised by these corporates during H1:2019-20 were mainly used for fixed assets formation and deleveraging (reduced borrowing). The total cost of projects sanctioned/contracted by major financing channels also increased in H1:2019-20 over H1:2018-19.

As per the first revised estimates, gross domestic saving (GDS) rate decreased to 30.1 per cent of GDP in 2018-19 from 32.4 per cent in 2017-18. The saving rate of the household sector, which is a net supplier of funds to the economy, declined from 23.6 per cent of GDP in 2011-12 to 18.2 per cent in 2018-19. While the private corporate sector finances its investment predominantly through its own savings, the public sector continues to rely heavily on households for financing its deficit (Chart III.8). During April-December 2019, household financial savings appeared to have improved as households' liabilities declined more than the increase in household deposits with scheduled commercial banks whereas their investment in insurance and mutual funds remained at the same level as in the previous year.



³ Capex ratio is defined as [net fixed assets (current half year) - net fixed assets (previous half year) + depreciation (current half year)]/net fixed assets (previous half year).

Chart III.7: Leverage and Investment Activity



Notes: 1. Leverage ratio: debt-equity ratio.
 2. Size of the bubble denotes the net fixed assets held by the industries as at end-March 2019 (chart a) and end-September 2019 (chart b).
 3. Analysis is based on 2,362 listed non-government non-financial (NGNF) companies common for the half years H1:2018-19, H2:2018-19 and H1:2019-20.
Source: RBI staff estimates.

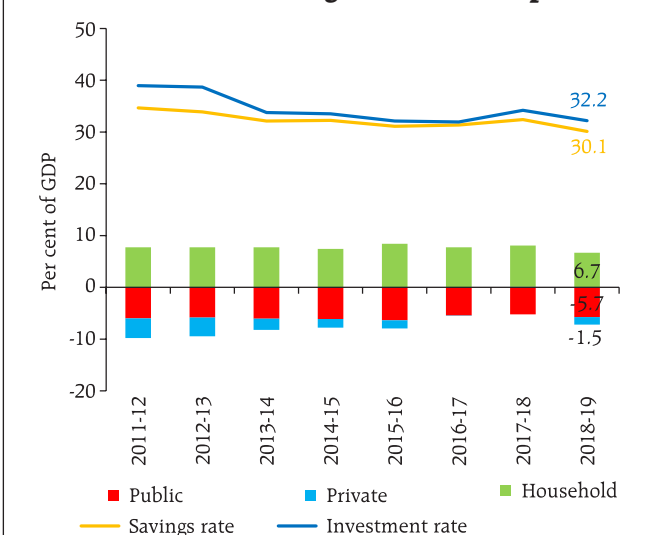
III.1.3 Government Expenditure

Growth in government final consumption expenditure (GFCE) moderated in H2:2019-20 due to a sharp slowdown in Q4 as implicit in the SAE released by the NSO. During January-February 2020, revenue expenditure of the Centre grew by 3.9 per cent. In

2020-21, revenue expenditure is budgeted higher than in 2019-20 revised estimates (RE) (Table III.2).

During 2019-20 (April-February), the fiscal position of the central government deteriorated mainly due to a decline in gross revenue under corporation tax, reflecting mid-year cut in tax rates. GST collections at ₹5.5 lakh crore were 89.5 per cent of RE and 4.5 per cent higher than a year ago. On the whole, direct taxes

Chart III.8: Saving Investment Gap



Sources: NSO; and RBI staff estimates.

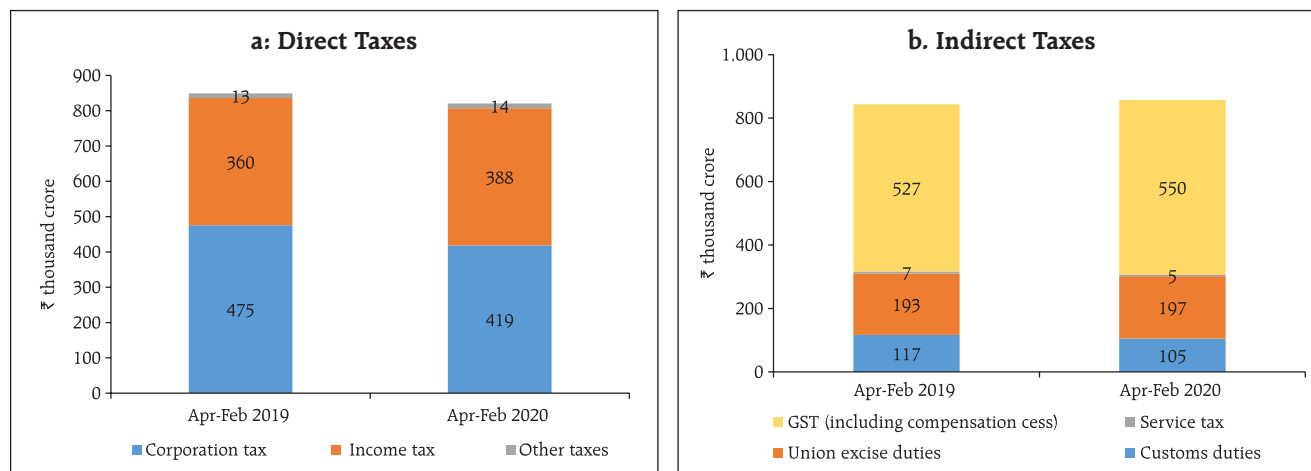
Table III.2: Key Fiscal Indicators – Central Government Finances

(Per cent to GDP)

Indicator	2019-20 (BE)	2019-20 (RE)	2020-21 (BE)
1. Revenue Receipts	9.3	9.1	9.0
<i>a. Tax Revenue (Net)</i>	7.8	7.4	7.3
<i>b. Non-Tax Revenue</i>	1.5	1.7	1.7
2. Non-Debt Capital Receipts	0.6	0.4	1.0
3. Revenue Expenditure	11.6	11.5	11.7
4. Capital Expenditure	1.6	1.7	1.8
5. Total Expenditure	13.2	13.2	13.5
6. Gross Fiscal Deficit	3.3	3.8	3.5
7. Revenue Deficit	2.3	2.4	2.7
8. Primary Deficit	0.2	0.7	0.4

Note: BE: Budget Estimates. RE: Revised Estimates.
Source: Union Budget, 2020-21.

Chart III.9: Tax Collection during April- February



Source: Controller General of Accounts, Ministry of Finance.

contracted by 3.3 per cent, while indirect taxes grew barely by 1.6 per cent in the first 11 months of the year, lower than the budget estimates (BE) (Chart III.9 a & b).

Revenue expenditure growth also stood lower than the RE mainly due to lower interest payments. Outgoes on account of major subsidies moderated from the BE of 1.4 per cent of GDP to 1.1 per cent in RE due to curtailment of on-budget food subsidy. Nonetheless, food subsidy continues to dominate the overall subsidy bill. Capital expenditure growth was also lower than in the RE.

Under the provisions of section 4(3) of the revised FRBM Act, which can be invoked under specific conditions⁴, the Centre's GFD was revised up to 3.8 per cent of GDP in 2019-20 (RE) from the budgeted 3.3 per cent, due to a shortfall in tax revenue and disinvestment proceeds. The implications of these evolving dynamics can be examined in a general equilibrium framework (Box III.3). The GFD is budgeted to moderate to 3.5 per cent of GDP in 2020-21 and in a glide path it will return to 3.1 per cent by 2022-23.

Box III.3 Augmenting Quarterly Projection Model (QPM): Fiscal Block

Fiscal policy measures can impact output, inflation and monetary policy decisions and *vice versa* (Government of India, 2017). However, all fiscal measures need not affect the macroeconomic variables in a similar way. The various conduits of fiscal-monetary interface and their impact on growth and inflation are assessed by incorporating a fiscal block in RBI's Quarterly Projection Model (QPM)⁵.

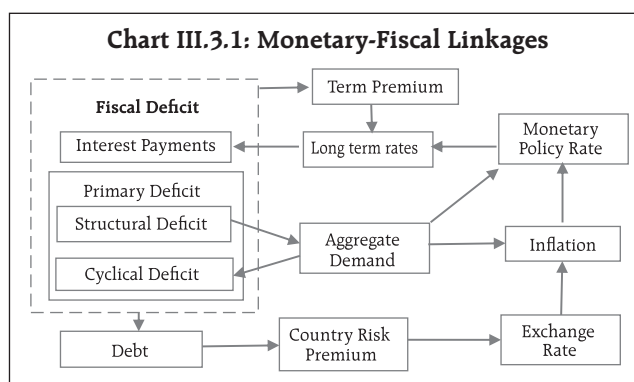
Salient features of the fiscal block in the QPM are the following: (a) headline fiscal deficit is decomposed into structural and cyclical primary deficits and interest payments; (b) the cyclical component of the primary deficit depends on the state of the economy and recognises that government tax revenue will be lower and expenditure will be higher leading to higher fiscal deficit when the overall

(contd.)

⁴ On ground or grounds of national security, act of war, national calamity, collapse of agriculture severely affecting farm output and incomes, structural reforms in the economy with unanticipated fiscal implications, and decline in real output growth of a quarter by at least three per cent points below its average of the previous four quarters (Source: Finance Act, 2018).

⁵ The QPM is a semi-structural, forward-looking, open economy, calibrated, gap model in the New Keynesian tradition and provides an internally consistent analysis of various feedback mechanisms.

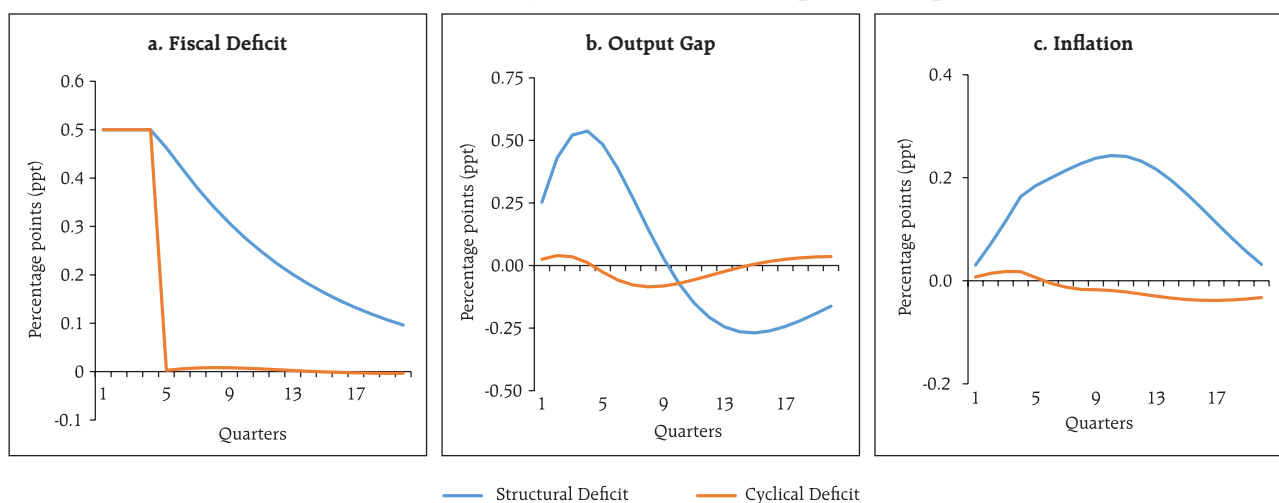
economy slows down and *vice versa*; (c) deviation of the fiscal deficit from the announced fiscal path on account of cyclically-adjusted (*i.e.*, structural – the part of fiscal deficit which is not related to the state of the economy) component of the primary deficit is a fiscal impulse and contributes to aggregate demand; (d) link between debt dynamics and fiscal deficit is identified for stock-flow consistency (Escolano, 2010); (e) the fiscal deficit and debt has implications for the country risk premium and the exchange rate; and (f) monetary policy’s interaction with the fiscal deficit is captured through interest payments (Chart III.3.1).



The model’s dynamics indicate that a shock to the cyclically-adjusted (structural) fiscal deficit impacts aggregate demand. The higher level of debt to finance higher fiscal deficit leads to increase in country risk premium and exchange rate depreciation. Thus, inflation gets impacted through both the aggregate demand and exchange rate channels. However, if the deviation of the headline fiscal position from the announced path is on account of cyclical factors, the impact on inflation and output would be muted (Chart III.3.2).

In 2019-20, the GDP growth has slowed down, which contributed to an increase in the fiscal deficit mainly on account of (a) lower aggregate demand (denominator), (b) lower fiscal revenue due to lower economic activity, and (c) higher fiscal expenditure on account of the measures to address the economic slowdown. Thus, a considerable portion of the fiscal deficit deviation in 2019-20 could be attributed to cyclical factors. In such scenario, the inflationary impact of this deviation was largely subdued.

Chart III.3.2: Structural and Cyclical Fiscal Deficit: Impact on Output and Inflation



Source: RBI staff estimates.

References:

Escolano, M. J. (2010), "A Practical Guide to Public Debt Dynamics, Fiscal Sustainability, and Cyclical Adjustment of Budgetary Aggregates", Technical Notes and Manuals 10/02, International Monetary Fund.
 Government of India (2017), "Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Review Committee" (Chairman: N.K Singh).

Table III.3: State Government Finances - Key Deficit Indicators

(per cent to GSDP)

Item	2018-19	2019-20 (BE)	2019-20 (RE)	2020-21 (BE)
Revenue Deficit	0.1	0.1	0.7	0.0
Gross Fiscal deficit	2.4	2.5	2.9	2.4

Notes: 1. Negative (-) sign indicates surplus.
2. Data pertain to 22 out of 28 States.
3. GSDP is the sum of GSDP of respective 22 states.

Sources: Budget Documents of State Governments.

Based on the latest available data, the gross fiscal deficit of 22 states increased to 2.9 per cent of their gross state domestic product (GSDP) in 2019-20 (RE) from the budgeted 2.5 per cent (Table III.3). The deviation was mainly caused by lower revenue – both own and central transfer – due to the slowdown in economic activity, which, in turn, induced states to cut both revenue and capital expenditure in an adverse feedback loop that further weakened aggregate demand. For 2020-21, states have budgeted a consolidated GFD of 2.4 per cent of GSDP, anticipating higher revenue and lower expenditure than a year ago.

Under the centre's market borrowing programme during 2019-20, that is managed by the Reserve Bank, gross borrowings were ₹2,68,000 crore during H2:2019-20, as compared to ₹2,83,000 crore during H2:2018-19, i.e., lower by 5.3 per cent than their level a year ago. Net market borrowings during H2:2019-20 at ₹1,33,000 crore were also 43.2 per cent lower. As part of active debt consolidation, seven tranches of

switch operations worth ₹1,24,694 crore were carried out during H2:2019-20 with the objective of managing redemption and enhancing liquidity of government securities. Furthermore, cash management bills worth ₹2,50,000 crore were issued on seven occasions during H2:2019-20 to tide over frequent recourse to ways and means advances/overdrafts in the face of negative cash balances with the Reserve Bank. States completed their gross borrowings of ₹6,34,521 crore for the year (Table III.4).

III.1.4 External Demand

Net exports contributed positively to aggregate demand in H2:2019-20, with imports contracting more sharply than exports (Chart 10).

According to data released by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S), the contraction in merchandise exports, which started in Q1:2019-20, accentuated in Q2, as the slump in shipment of engineering goods, gems and jewellery, cotton and handloom products, and rice became pronounced in the face of a prolonged slowdown in world trade and demand. The pace of overall export contraction moderated during Q3:2019-20, and eventually there was a turnaround in February, supported by petroleum, oil and lubricants (POL), engineering goods, electronic goods and chemicals (Chart III.11a). Overall, exports shrank by 1.5 per cent during April-February 2019-20, though the adverse impact of COVID-19 on global supply chains and global economic activity more generally may dent export performance in March.

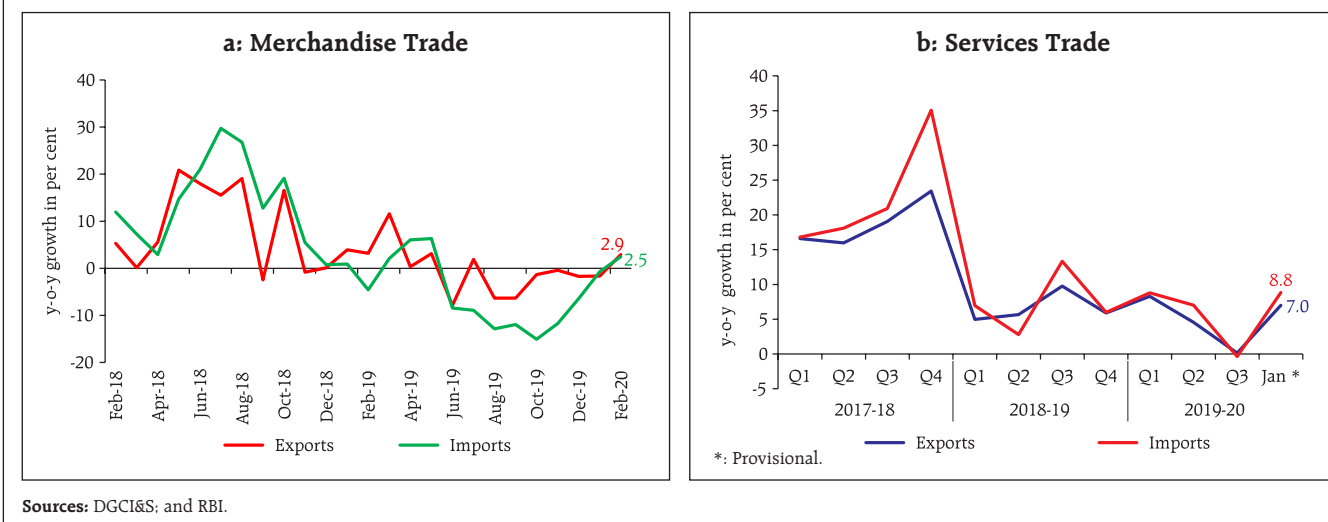
Table III.4: Government Market Borrowings

(₹ crore)

Item	2017-18			2018-19			2019-20		
	Centre	States	Total	Centre	States	Total	Centre	States	Total
Net Borrowings	4,48,410	3,40,281	7,88,691	4,22,737	3,48,643	7,71,380	4,73,972	4,87,454	9,61,426
Gross Borrowings	5,88,000	4,19,100	10,07,100	5,71,000	4,78,323	10,49,323	7,10,000	6,34,521	13,44,521

Sources: Government of India; and RBI staff estimates.

Chart III.10. Growth in Trade

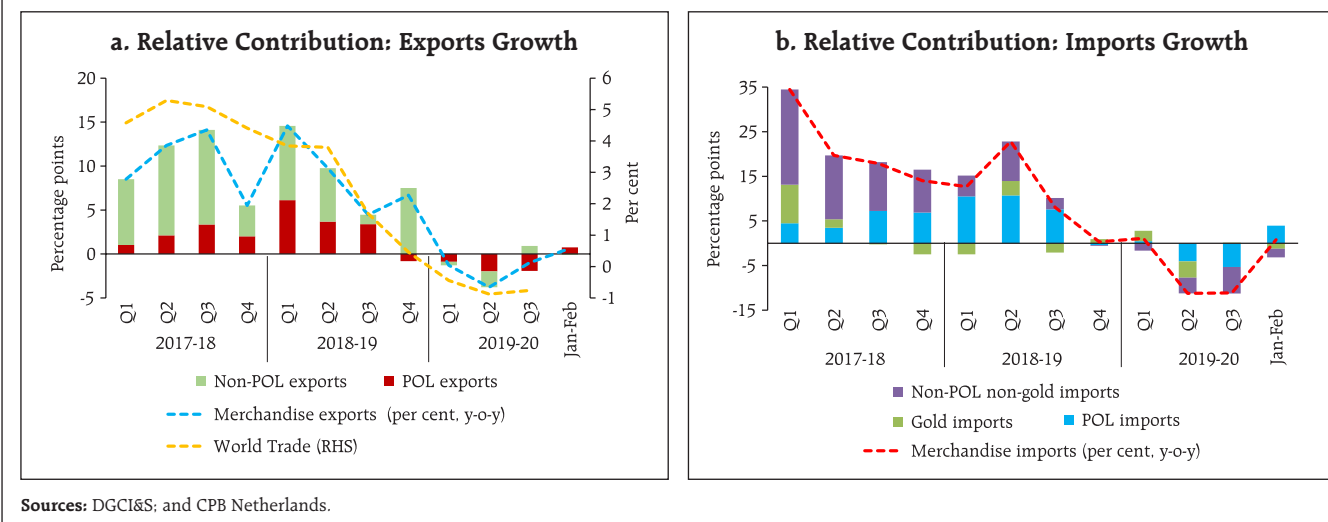


Imports contracted in Q2:2019-20, pulled down by gold, POL and non-POL non-gold imports (Chart III.11b). Within the latter, the decline was broad-based and covered sectors such as transport equipment, pearls and precious stones, coal and chemicals. Imports also contracted in Q3 and in January 2020, but expanded in February, driven by POL, pearls and precious stones and machinery. Overall, imports contracted by 7.3 per cent during April-February 2019-20. With imports declining more than exports, the trade deficit narrowed from US\$

173.0 billion in April-February 2018-19 to US\$ 143.1 billion in April-February 2019-20. India's oil import bill is expected to decline in March with a steep fall in crude oil prices and this may compress the trade deficit further for the full year.

The current account deficit (CAD) narrowed to 0.2 per cent of GDP in Q3:2019-20 from 0.9 per cent in Q2:2019-20 and from 2.7 per cent in Q3 a year ago. The contraction in the CAD was primarily on account of a lower trade deficit and a rise in net services receipts.

Chart III.11: Relative Contribution to Export and Import Growth



Services exports grew on the back of a rise in net earnings from software, travel and financial services (Chart 10.b). Remittances from overseas Indians were strong in Q3:2019-20, while the net outgo of payments due to investment income and compensation of employees together, remained broadly unchanged from the previous year.

Net capital inflows exceeded the CAD in Q3:2019-20. Net foreign direct investment (FDI) flows at US\$ 37.8 billion in April-January 2019-20 were higher than those a year ago, flowing mainly to manufacturing, communication, retail and wholesale trade, financial and computer services. Amidst growing risk aversion on fears of global recession in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic, foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) turned net sellers beginning February 18, 2020. Foreign portfolio investment (FPI) outflows accentuated further from March 6, 2020 as the oil price war between Saudi Arabia and Russia caused fresh turbulence in global financial markets. Overall, FPI outflows were of the order of US\$ 7.1 billion in 2019-20 (up to March 31, 2020). Under the voluntary retention route, however, net investment by FPIs amounted to US\$ 8.7 billion up to March 31, 2020. Net disbursements under external commercial borrowings (ECBs) by Indian entities at US\$ 3.2 billion in Q3:2019-20 were higher than

those of US\$ 2.0 billion a year ago. Net International Investment Position (IIP), *i.e.*, the difference between a country's external financial assets and liabilities, improved during Q3:2019-20 over Q2. India's foreign exchange reserves were placed at US\$ 475.6 billion, equivalent to 11.8 months of import, as on March 27, 2020 – an increase of US\$ 62.7 billion over the level at end-March 2019.

III.2 Aggregate Supply

Gross value added (GVA) growth at basic prices – the metric for aggregate supply – decelerated to 4.7 per cent in H2:2019-20 from 5.1 per cent in H1 and 5.6 per cent in H2:2018-19 (Table III.5). This deceleration can be attributed to base effects to a large extent since its momentum measured in terms of q-o-q SAAR accelerated to 5.6 per cent in H2 from 4.2 per cent in H1 (Chart III.12a). With COVID-19 impacting the GVA in the last phase of Q4 strongly, it is unlikely that this momentum would be maintained as the year closed.

The slowdown in y-o-y GVA growth reflected the deceleration in industrial and services activities. On the other hand, GVA growth in agriculture and allied activities accelerated in H2:2019-20 in comparison with both H1:2019-20 and H2:2018-19, buoyed by the late surge in south-west monsoon rainfall and

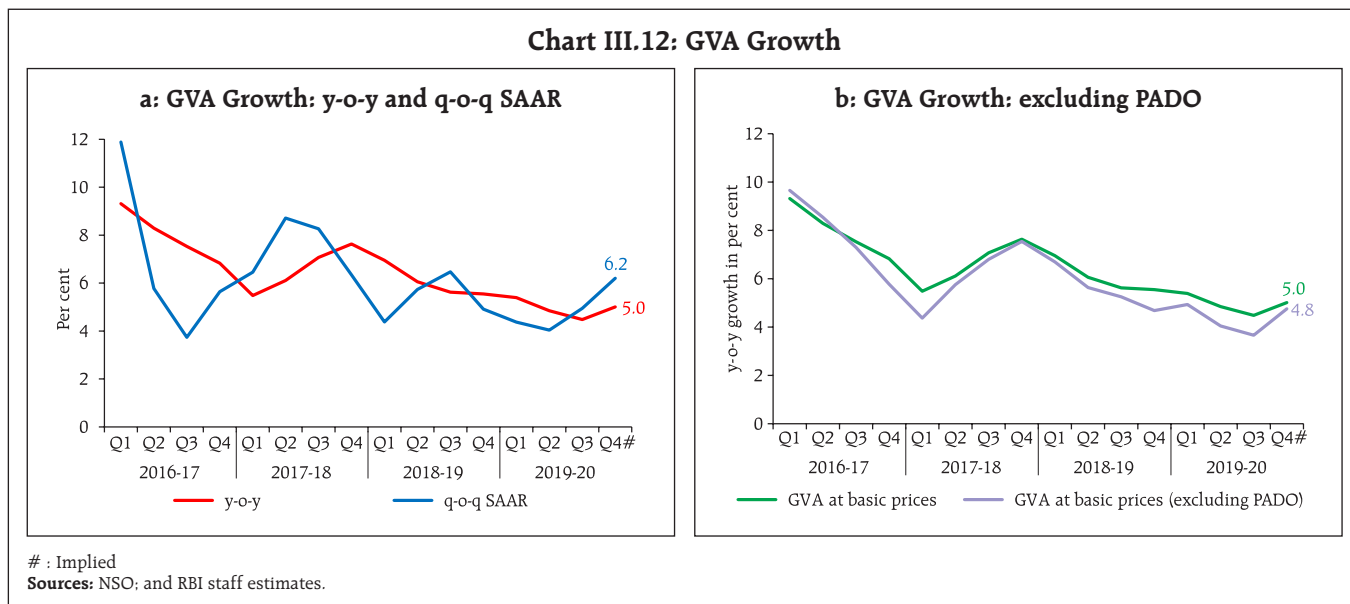
Table III.5: Sector-wise Growth in GVA

(y-o-y, per cent)

Sector	2018-19 (FRE)	2019-20 (SAE)	Weighted 2019-20	2018-19 (FRE)				2019-20 (SAE)			
				Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4#
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2.4	3.7	0.5	3.8	2.5	2.0	1.6	2.8	3.1	3.5	5.0
Industry	4.5	1.5	0.3	7.8	4.7	4.4	1.4	3.2	0.1	0.1	2.3
Mining and quarrying	-5.8	2.8	0.1	-7.3	-7.0	-4.4	-4.8	4.7	0.2	3.2	2.6
Manufacturing	5.7	0.9	0.2	10.7	5.6	5.2	2.1	2.2	-0.4	-0.2	1.8
Electricity, gas, water supply and other utilities	8.2	4.6	0.1	7.9	9.9	9.5	5.5	8.8	3.9	-0.7	6.5
Services	7.5	6.5	4.1	7.3	7.2	7.3	8.3	6.7	6.8	6.4	6.1
Construction	6.1	3.0	0.2	6.4	5.2	6.6	6.0	5.5	2.9	0.3	3.2
Trade, hotels, transport, communication	7.7	5.6	1.1	8.5	7.8	7.8	6.9	5.7	5.8	5.9	5.1
Financial, real estate and professional services	6.8	7.3	1.6	6.0	6.5	6.5	8.7	6.9	7.1	7.3	8.0
Public administration, defence and other services	9.4	8.8	1.1	8.8	8.9	8.1	11.6	8.7	10.1	9.7	6.7
GVA at basic prices	6.0	4.9	4.9	6.9	6.1	5.6	5.6	5.4	4.8	4.5	5.0

FRE: First Revised Estimates; SAE: Second Advance Estimates. #: Implicit growth.

Source: NSO.



bountiful north-east monsoon precipitation. Based on the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare's second advance estimates, production of all major food grains, except *urad* and *moong*, in 2019-20 was higher than the final estimates of the preceding year. Public administration, defence and other services (PADO) continued to provide support to overall supply conditions (Chart 12b).

III.2.1 Agriculture

GVA growth at basic prices in agriculture and allied activities accelerated in H2:2019-20 to 4.2 per cent from 3.0 per cent in H1:2019-20. Acreage of *rabi* crops increased by 9.5 per cent, underpinned by the favourable northeast monsoon, sufficient reservoir levels, improved soil moisture and an increase in prices for agricultural commodities. The second advance estimates of crop production for 2019-20 placed *kharif* and *rabi* foodgrain production higher by 0.6 and 4.1 per cent, respectively (Table III.6). Horticultural production was placed at a record level of 3,133.5 lakh tonnes during 2019-20, 0.8 per cent higher than the final estimates for 2018-19 and driven largely by production of vegetables.

Table III.6: Agricultural Production in 2019-20 (Second Advance Estimates)

(in Lakh Tonnes)

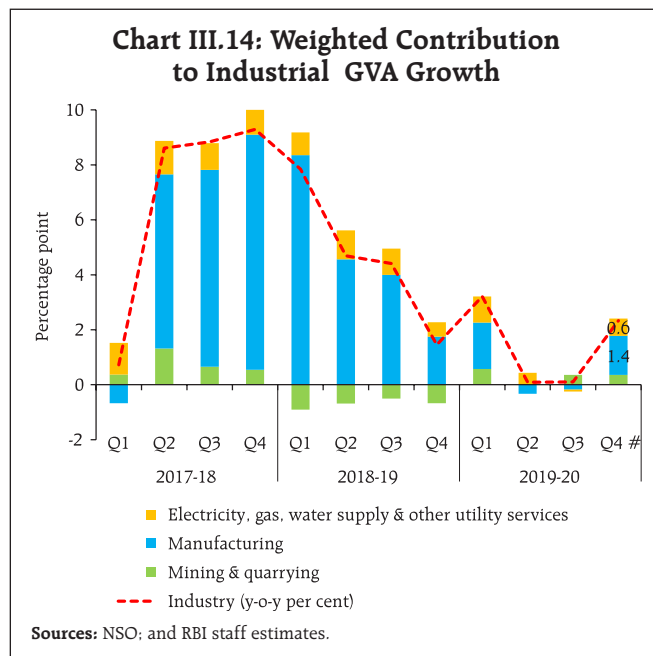
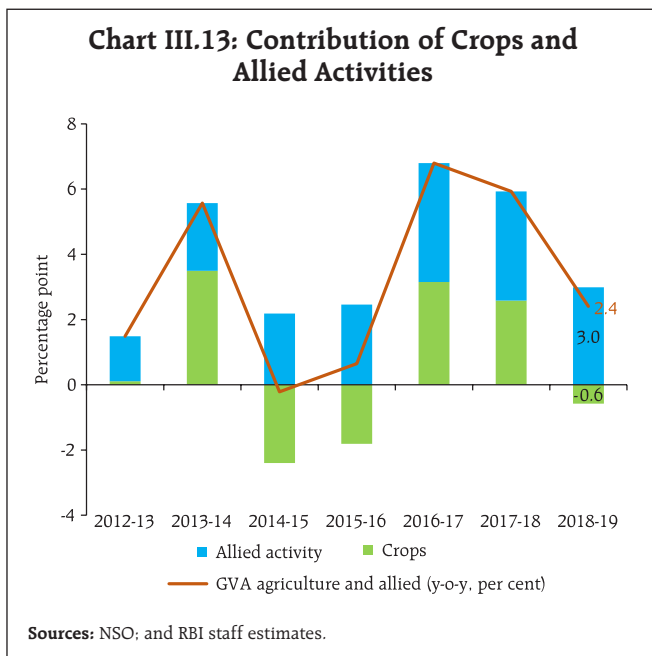
Crop	2018-19		2019-20		2019-20 Variation (Per cent)		
	2nd AE	Final	Target	2nd AE	Over 2nd AE 2018-19	Over Final 2018-19	Over Target
Foodgrains	2814	2852	2911	2920	3.8	2.4	0.3
Rice	1156	1165	1160	1175	1.6	0.8	1.3
Wheat	991	1036	1005	1062	7.2	2.5	5.7
Pulses	240	221	263	230	-4.2	4.3	-12.5
Oilseeds	315	315	361	342	8.5	8.5	-5.3
Sugarcane	3808	4054	3855	3538	-7.1	-12.7	-8.2
Cotton #	301	280	358	349	16	24.4	-2.4
Jute & Mesta ##	101	98	112	98	-2.6	-0.1	-12.4

#: Lakh bales of 170 kgs. each.

##: Lakh bales of 180 kgs. each.

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India.

Allied activities, including livestock, forestry and fishing, constitute about 40 per cent of the GVA in agriculture and allied sector and contributed four-fifths of overall agricultural GVA growth during 2012-19 (Chart III.13).



According to the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), near- to above-average sea surface temperatures (SSTs) prevailed across the equatorial Pacific Ocean during March 2020. There is 65 per cent chance of ENSO⁶-neutral prevailing in the spring and 55 per cent chance in the summer of 2020. The Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) has indicated that the ENSO Outlook is neutral, suggesting low or no possibility of *El Niño* or *La Niña* developing in the coming months. Skymet expects neutral conditions to prevail during monsoon months with more than 50 per cent probability. The India Meteorological Department also expects ENSO-neutral conditions to prevail during April-June 2020.

III.2.2 Industrial Sector

In the industrial sector, GVA growth at basic prices decelerated to 1.3 per cent in H2:2019-20 from 1.7 per cent in the preceding half, and 2.8 per cent a year ago (Chart III. 14). It was the deceleration in

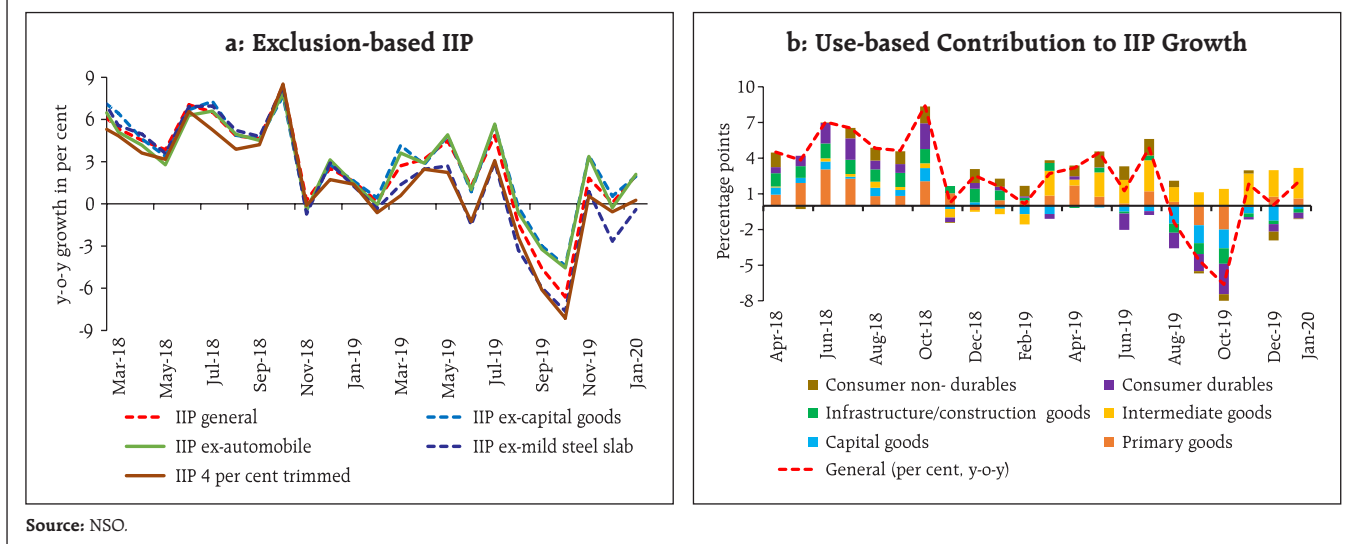
the manufacturing sector – the dominant component of industry – that deepened this slowdown, due to weak domestic and external demand. The mining sector growth picked up, but electricity generation weakened.

Among the high frequency indicators, the index of industrial production (IIP) emerged out of contraction in November 2019 and remained in positive territory in the following two months. The truncated IIP, by taking 96 per cent of IIP, *i.e.*, excluding top 2 per cent and bottom 2 per cent of volatile items, improved marginally in January 2020 (Chart III.15a).

Manufacturing IIP contracted in Q3:2019-20, pulled down by a decline in the production of motor vehicles, machinery and equipment, computer, electronic and optical products, fabricated metal products, rubber and plastics products. Of the 23 industry groups constituting the IIP, 17 contracted during Q3 as against 15 during Q2. In terms of the use-based classification, the intermediate goods sector grew by double digits in Q3:2019-20 led by growth in mild steel (MS) slabs. On the other hand, consumer non-durables slipped into contraction (Chart III.15b).

⁶ "ENSO" refers to the *El Niño*-Southern Oscillation, the interaction between the atmosphere and ocean in the tropical Pacific that results in a somewhat periodic variation between below-normal and above-normal sea surface temperatures and dry and wet conditions over the course of a few years.

Chart III.15: IIP and Use-based Classification



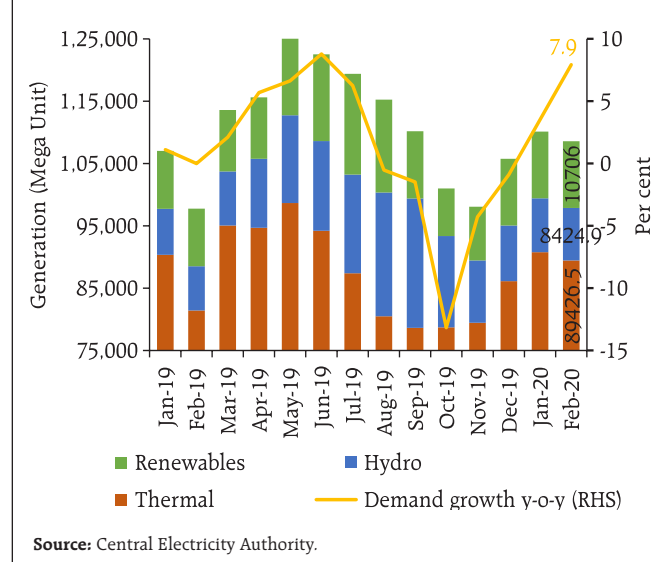
Primary goods, infrastructure and consumer durables remained in contraction in Q3. The consumer durables segment contracted in Q3:2019-20 due to the decline in production of two wheelers, TV sets and auto components. The capital goods sector also remained in contraction in Q3 mainly due to weak investment demand pertaining especially to commercial vehicles and power generation.

In January 2020, while the IIP growth was positive at 2.0 per cent, this was also broad-based. However, its sustainability in the near term seems to be uncertain in view of supply chain disruptions caused by COVID-19 and weak automobile sales. Intermediate goods continued to register robust growth emanating mostly from mild steel slabs, which contributed 197 basis points to headline IIP growth in January. Capital goods production continued to contract, taking the sequential decline to its thirteenth consecutive month.

Electricity generation decelerated in H2 in comparison with H1, reflective of low demand from the organised manufacturing sector amidst extended monsoon season. This subdued performance was mainly on account of thermal power generation,

the source of two-thirds of energy supply. Electricity generation increased in December-January 2020, after six months of contraction (Chart III.16). In the mining sector, production picked up marginally in H2 but remained weak. Recent announcements by the Government such as doing away with end-use restrictions in coal mining, extending the validity of

Chart III.16: Electricity Generation and Demand Growth



clearances for mining leases and opening up of this sector to new participants may spur activity in this sector.

The Reserve Bank's business assessment of the industrial outlook survey (IOS)⁷ showed improvement in Q4:2019-20, with the sentiment on employment conditions slightly improved. In view of the intensification of COVID-19, a quick survey with select parameters was specially conducted during March 18-20 to capture the updated sentiments of the enterprises. The limited responses received indicate a considerable worsening of the key demand indicators in Q4:2019-20 and the pessimism was more pronounced in the outlook for the next quarter. Manufacturing PMI softened to 51.8 in March from 54.5 in February due to the marked decline in new business order (export); the COVID-19 negatively impacted the supply-side of the sector, with suppliers' delivery times lengthening for the first time in five months. Services PMI moved to contraction zone: 49.3 in March from a seven-year high of 57.5 in February

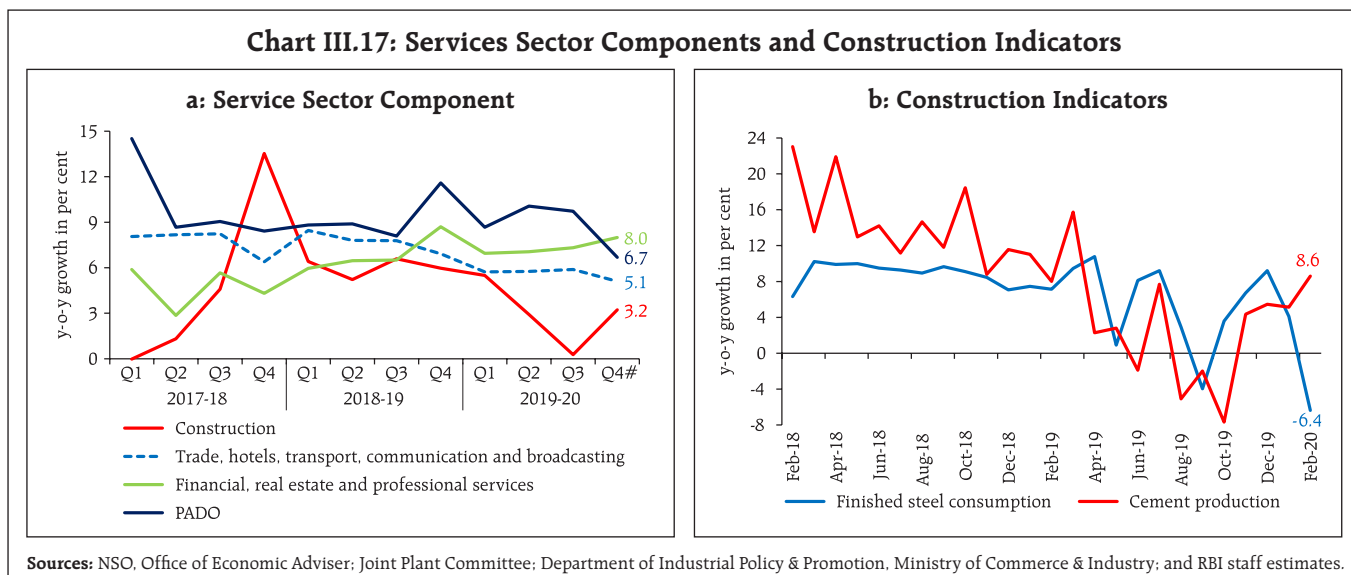
due to deterioration in new export business as well as business expectations.

III.2.3 Services

Service sector activity moderated in H2:2019-20, pulled down by a slowdown in construction and trade, hotels, transport and communication and PADO (Chart III.17a). The slowdown in the construction sector was reflected in a decline in one of its key indicators, *viz.*, cement production (Chart III.17b).

Growth in trade, hotels, transport, communication and services related to broadcasting was muted in H2:2019-20. Commercial vehicle sales – a lead indicator for road transport – continued to contract in H2:2019-20 as the impact of the upward revision in axle norms⁸ in July 2018 lingered (Chart III.18a). Other constituents of the transport segment like freight traffic by rail, water and air improved marginally in December-February 2019-20 (Chart III.18b).

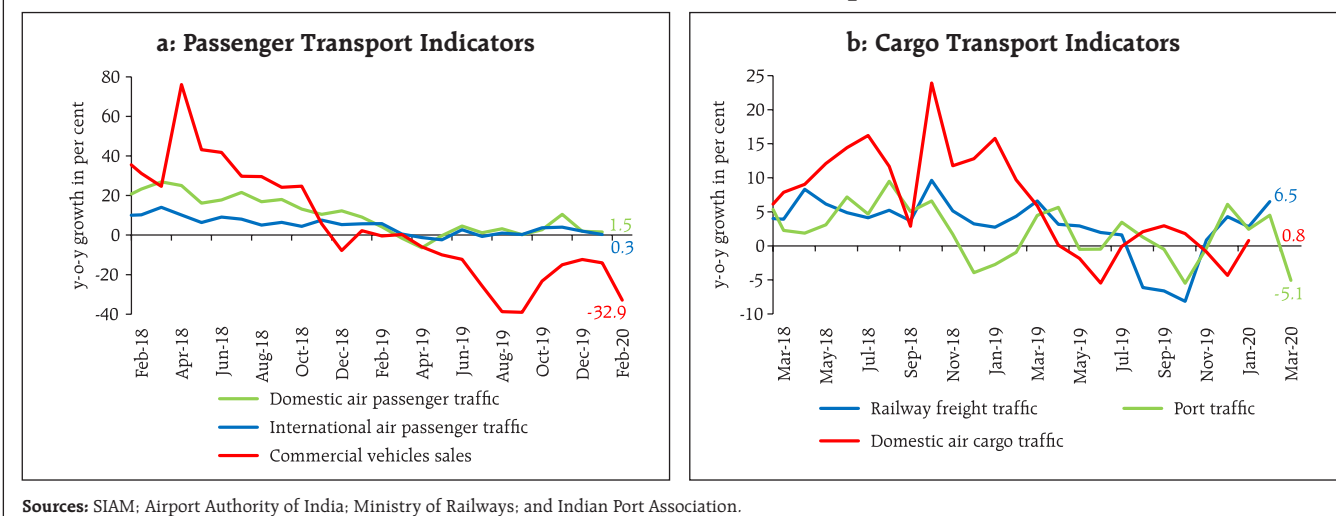
The growth of financial, real estate and professional services accelerated in H2:2019-20,



⁷ The current round of the survey was launched on January 30, 2020 and the results are summarised from 860 responses received till March 18, 2020.

⁸ Ministry of Road Transport & Highways notified increase in truck axle load of heavy vehicles to raise the carrying capacity of goods vehicles by about 20-25 per cent and lower logistics costs by about 2 per cent on July 18, 2018.

Chart III.18: Performance of the Transport Sector



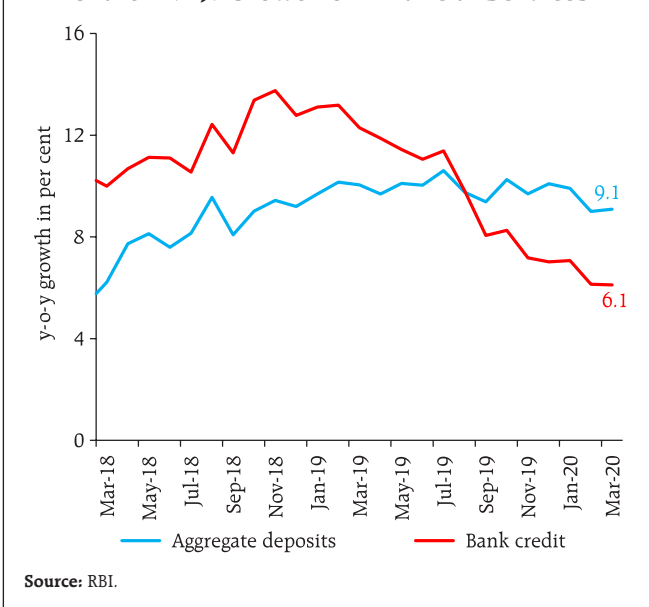
reflecting the robust performance of information technology companies in the professional services segment. However, the growth of aggregate deposits and bank credit remained muted (Chart III.19).

The growth of public administration, defence and other services (PADO) moderated in Q3:2019-20, reflecting subdued revenue expenditure (net of interest payments and subsidies) of the Union and the

state governments. This has likely got accentuated in Q4 in view of the tight financial position of the Centre and States: the Union finance ministry has directed all government departments and ministries to restrict their expenditures within the budgeted level.

The residential real estate sector has continued to suffer from low demand and large inventory overhang. As a result, new launches declined in Q3:2019-20 (Chart III.20 a). Reflecting the large volume of inventory overhang, all-India level housing prices have moderated somewhat (Chart III.20b).

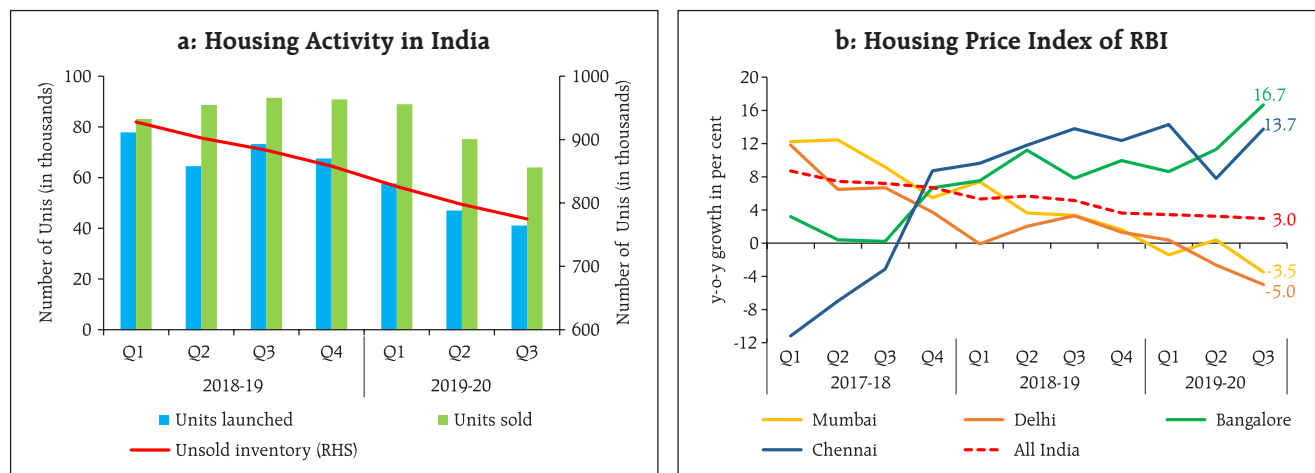
Chart III.19: Growth of Financial Services



III.3 Output Gap

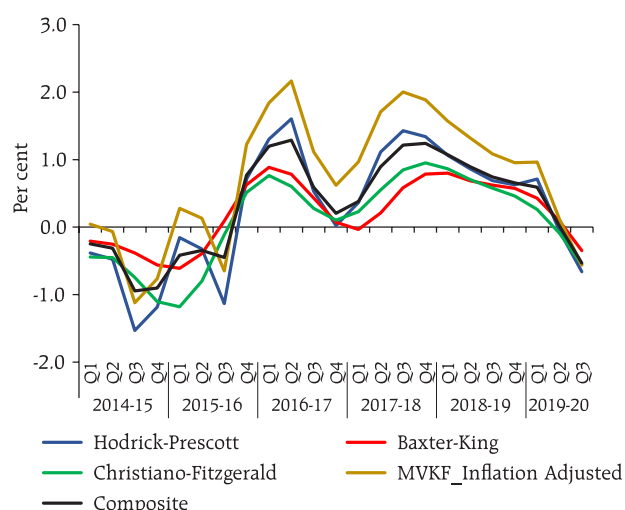
The output gap – the deviation of actual output from its potential level and expressed as a proportion to potential output – is a summary measure of demand-supply conditions in the economy and an important input for monetary policy formulation, since it provides a ‘fix’ about the position of the economy *vis-à-vis* the underlying business cycle. As potential output is unobservable, it has to be empirically estimated and hence, it is sensitive to the choice of methodology, time period and revisions in data. A variety of measures - univariate filters such as the Hodrick-Prescott (HP) filter, the Baxter-King (BK) filter and the Christiano-

Chart III.20: Housing Sector – Launches, Sales and Prices



Sources: PropTiger; and RBI staff estimates.

Chart III.21: Output Gap Estimates



Note: MVKF: Multivariate Kalman Filter.
Source: RBI staff estimates.

Fitzgerald (CF) filter and the multivariate Kalman filter (MVKF) taking into account inflation developments – are used to assess the state of business cycle. The

composite estimate, by combining all these measures, suggests that the output gap was negative in Q3:2019-20 (Chart III.21).

III.4 Conclusion

In Q3:2019-20, the economy hit a multi-quarter low and going forward, the risks are tilted largely to the downside. Private consumption, in particular, is at serious risk from the COVID-19 pandemic, notwithstanding improved *rabi* prospects and the recent rise in food prices, and the rationalisation of personal income tax rates in the Union Budget 2020-21 along with measures to boost rural and infrastructure spending. Aggregate demand is expected to be impacted adversely by likely recession in the global economy, caused by disruptions in global supply chains, travel and tourism, and lockdowns in many economies. Domestic production will also be impacted by the nation-wide lockdown. In the near-term, the challenge is to mitigate the adverse impact of COVID-19.

IV. Financial Markets and Liquidity Conditions

Domestic financial markets were overwhelmingly influenced by evolving domestic and global developments and the outbreak of COVID-19 in India in end-January 2020. Markets witnessed heightened volatility beginning February, culminating into a state of seizure in March with sharp shrinkage in trading activity. Search for safe haven assets and flight to safety resulted in large scale capital outflows which sent equity markets into a tailspin and exerted sharp depreciation pressure on the Indian Rupee. The risk premium in the bond markets increased sharply amidst increasing fears of illiquidity.

Global financial markets turned volatile during the latter part of H2:2019-20 against the backdrop of geo-political tensions between Iran and the US and outbreak of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the latter overwhelming the positive impact of de-escalation of trade tensions between the US and China and the UK election outcome being conducive to an amicable resolution of Brexit. Towards end-February and early-March, global markets experienced episodic meltdowns as COVID-19 spread out of China to many countries rapidly. The severity of the crisis prompted emergency rate cuts by the US Federal Reserve on March 3 and March 15, 2020. Similar moves by the central banks in Canada, the UK, Australia, New Zealand and several others were backed up by measures, both conventional and unconventional to unfreeze markets, ensure adequate liquidity and ease financial conditions. Amidst heightened uncertainty, equity markets in many advanced economies (AEs) and emerging market economies (EMEs) suffered their worst week after the global financial crisis (GFC) during March 9-16, 2020. Bond yields fell sharply, most noticeably in the US where the 10-year benchmark yield fell

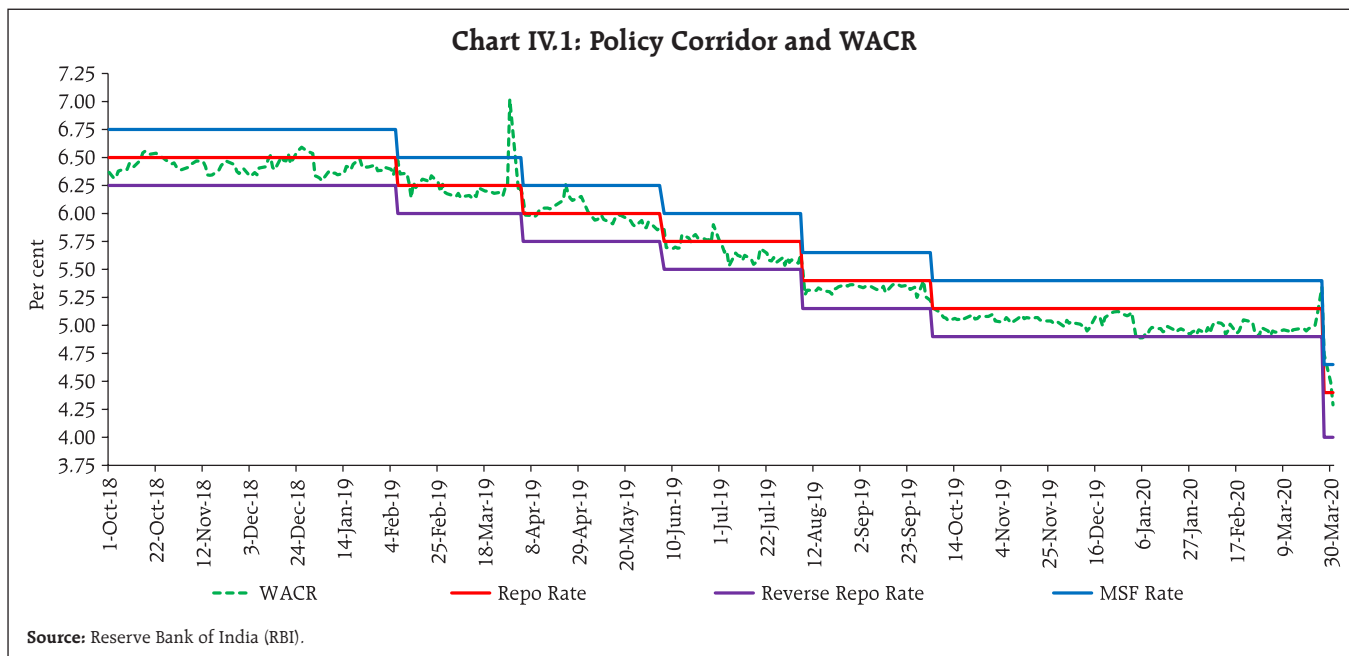
below 1 per cent on the days of the Fed rate cut on March 03 and March 15. In currency markets, the US dollar appreciated in December as trade tensions receded and gained further on safe haven demand after the COVID-19 outbreak. Most EME currencies weakened sharply with flight to safety intensifying in late February and early March.

IV.1 Domestic Financial Markets

During H2:2019-20, domestic financial markets exhibited divergent movements. A policy rate cut in October 2019 and liquidity management operations undertaken by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) enthused market sentiment but growing concerns about the domestic economic slowdown, fiscal slippages, geo-political tensions and heightened uncertainties caused by the rapid spread of COVID-19 posed significant challenges, particularly towards the close of Q4. An unscheduled meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the RBI on March 24, 26 and 27 delivered an unprecedented reduction in the policy repo rate and the announcement of several liquidity-augmenting measures briefly assuaged market fears (see Box IV.3).

In the credit market, monetary policy transmission was facilitated by large surplus liquidity, long term repo operations (LTROs) targeted to reduce banks' cost of funds, simultaneous purchase and sale of securities under open market operations (special OMOs)¹ and exemption from cash reserve ratio (CRR) requirements to incentivise lending to specific sectors. Equity markets scaled a new high on January 14, 2020, but turned highly volatile thereafter in sync with global markets. The Indian Rupee (INR) came under pressure due to fears sparked by the spread of

¹ These operations have been commonly referred to as "operation twist" by the financial media drawing on the experience of the US Federal Reserve having conducted two such operations in 1961 and 2011 in a bid to lower long-term interest rates and provide a boost to the economy by making credit cheaper for businesses, industries and other borrowers.



pandemic and flight to safety. In the event, however, the depreciation of INR was significantly lower than currencies of many EME peers.

IV.1.1 Money Market

Money markets have remained broadly resilient reflecting the RBI's proactive liquidity management operations. During H2, the weighted average call rate (WACR) in the unsecured overnight money market has remained within the policy corridor with a downward bias (13 bps below the repo rate on an average basis) reflecting sustained surplus liquidity (Chart IV.1). The WACR spiked in the typical financial year-end phenomenon, compounded by reduced market participation because of the COVID-19 induced nation-wide lockdown.

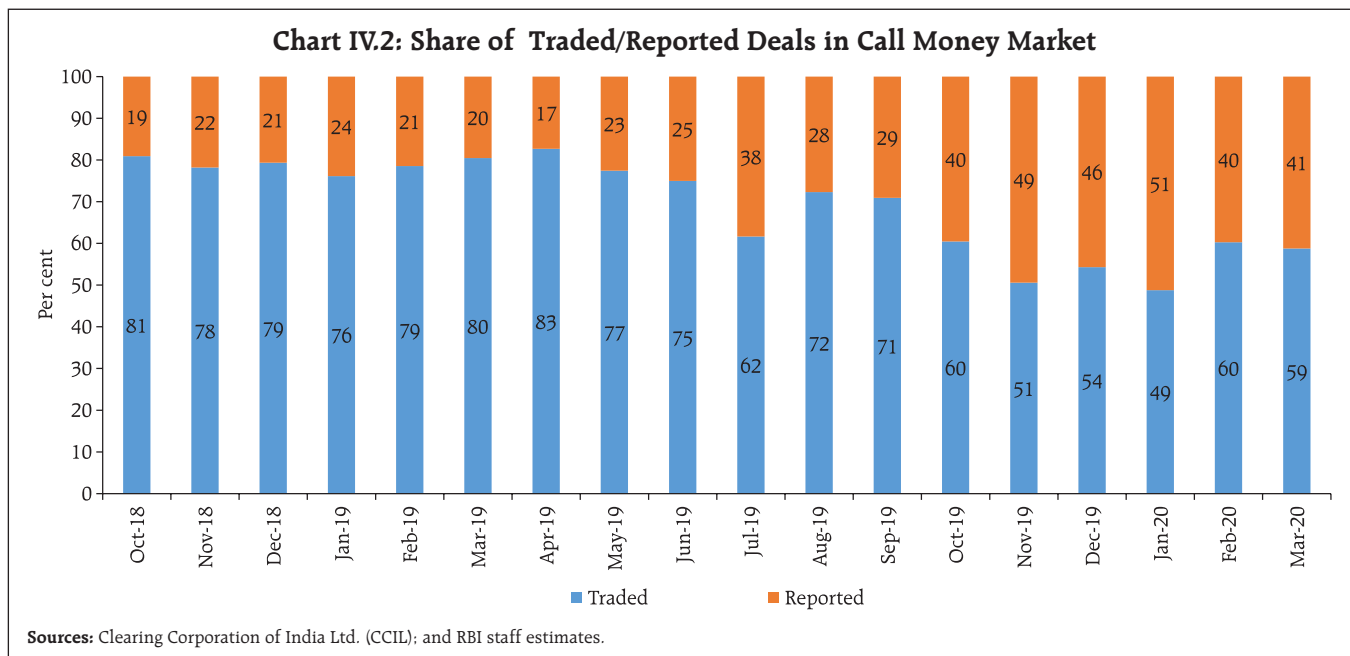
In the overnight call money segment, the weighted average rate of traded deals continued to be higher than that of reported deals.² The share of traded deals (in terms of volume) was also higher *vis-a-vis* reported deals, though the latter picked up in H2 *vis-à-vis* H1 on: (i) increased lending by co-operative banks; and (ii) higher levels of surplus liquidity in the second half of the year (Chart IV.2).

The share of the collateralised money market (triparty repo and market repo) in the overnight money market volume increased in H2:2019-20 (Chart IV.3). The dependency of banks on the call money market, however, has increased (the share of call money in total overnight transactions increased to 6 per cent during February-March 2020 from 4 per cent in January), partly reflecting the discontinuation of the daily fixed rate repo operations since February 14, 2020 as part of the revised liquidity management framework announced on February 06, 2020 (see Box IV.2).

In particular, the share of triparty repo in overnight money market volumes improved due to increased lending by mutual funds (MFs) from October 2019. The change in the cut-off timing³ for applicability of net asset value (NAV) on purchase of units in liquid and overnight funds has given more leeway to asset management companies (AMCs) to deploy funds in

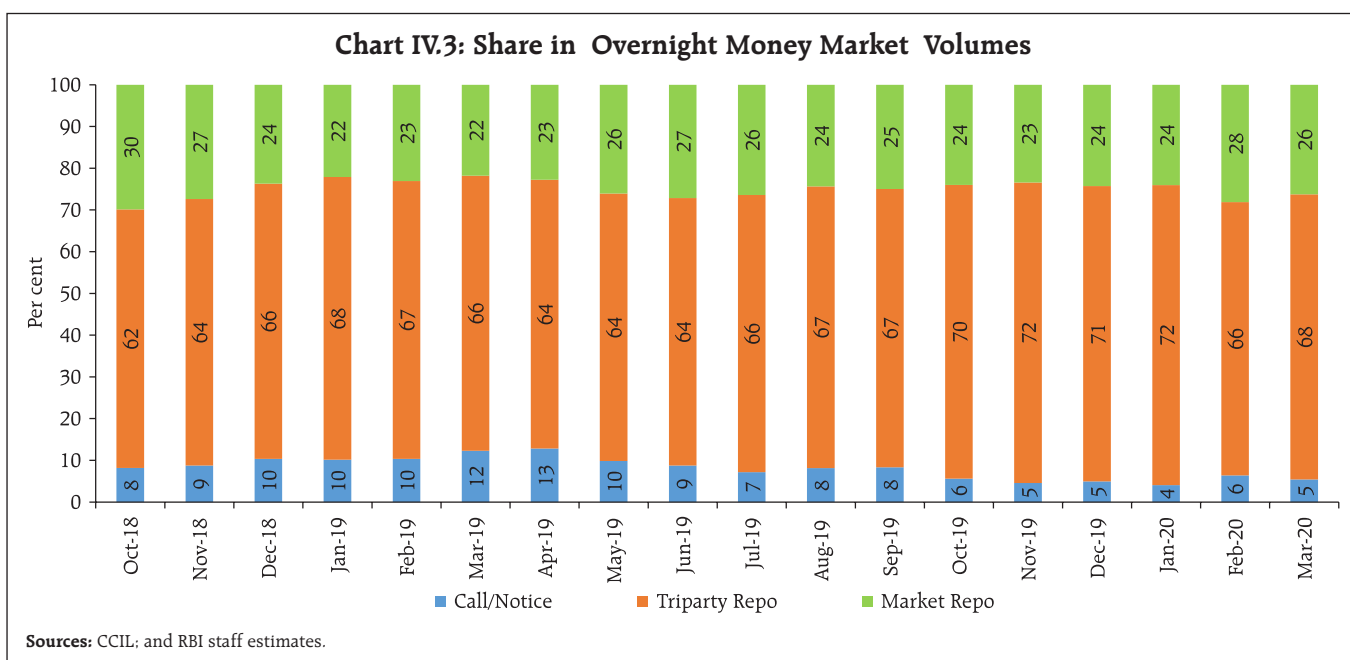
² 'Traded deals' are deals negotiated directly on the NDS-Call platform whereas 'reported deals' are over-the-counter (OTC) deals which are reported on the NDS-Call platform after the completion of negotiation of deals.

³ The cut-off timing for computing NAV was advanced from 2:00 PM to 1:30 PM by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on September 20, 2019.



the triparty repo segment. Accordingly, the share of lending by MFs in triparty repo increased from 60.5 per cent in September 2019 to 64.7 per cent in October and peaked at 72.1 per cent in March. Concomitantly, borrowings by MFs reduced sharply from 9.8 per cent in September 2019 to 2.4 per cent in October, averaging only 2.2 per cent in the succeeding months.

During H2:2019-20, interest rates in the collateralised overnight money market segments softened in tandem with the WACR, though the moderation was more pronounced around the time of the conduct of the third auction of the special OMOs on January 06, 2020. Overnight rates in the triparty repo and market repo segments declined



sharply towards end-March 2020, with the former trading close to zero as liquidity surplus increased in the wake of extreme risk-aversion gripping investors, including corporates and non-banks. The triparty repo and market repo traded below the WACR (on an average) by 36 bps and 37 bps, respectively, in H2. Interest rates on longer-term money market instruments such as certificates of deposit (CDs), commercial paper (CPs) and treasury bills (T-Bills) of 3-month maturity moved divergently, responding to the policy rate cut in October and the build-up of surplus liquidity (Chart IV.4). CP rates experienced intermittent bouts of volatility before hardening in late-February and early-March 2020.

In view of the persistent liquidity surplus, banks reduced their recourse to CDs as fresh issuances declined to ₹1,86,954 crore during H2:2019-20 from ₹2,01,302 crore during H1. CP issuances also declined to ₹10,02,667 crore in H2 from ₹12,38,324 crore in H2:2018-19, mainly reflecting risk aversion. The weighted average discount rate (WADR) of CPs in the primary market generally eased up to February

(i) in sync with the build-up of surplus liquidity; and (ii) with the predominance of issuances by top rated issuers backed by relatively stronger parent companies. The WADR, which had firmed up by 24 bps in December 2019 reflecting credit rating concerns, increased sharply by 229 bps in March on account of contagion fears arising out of (i) COVID-19 induced financial stress; and (ii) interconnectedness in the banking system with distress in a private sector bank (Chart IV.5a). The share of non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) in primary issuances of CPs, which had declined immediately after the IL&FS crisis, increased in October subsequently peaking at around 35 per cent in March 2020 (Chart IV.5b).

Monetary policy transmission was more than proportionate in the triparty repo and market repo segments, facilitated by large surplus liquidity conditions in H2:2019-20 and partly due to the year-end phenomenon as discussed earlier (Table IV.1). The risk premium (on an average) in the money market (3-month CPs over 91-day T-Bills), however, firmed up to 97 bps in H2 from 87 bps in H1, driven by

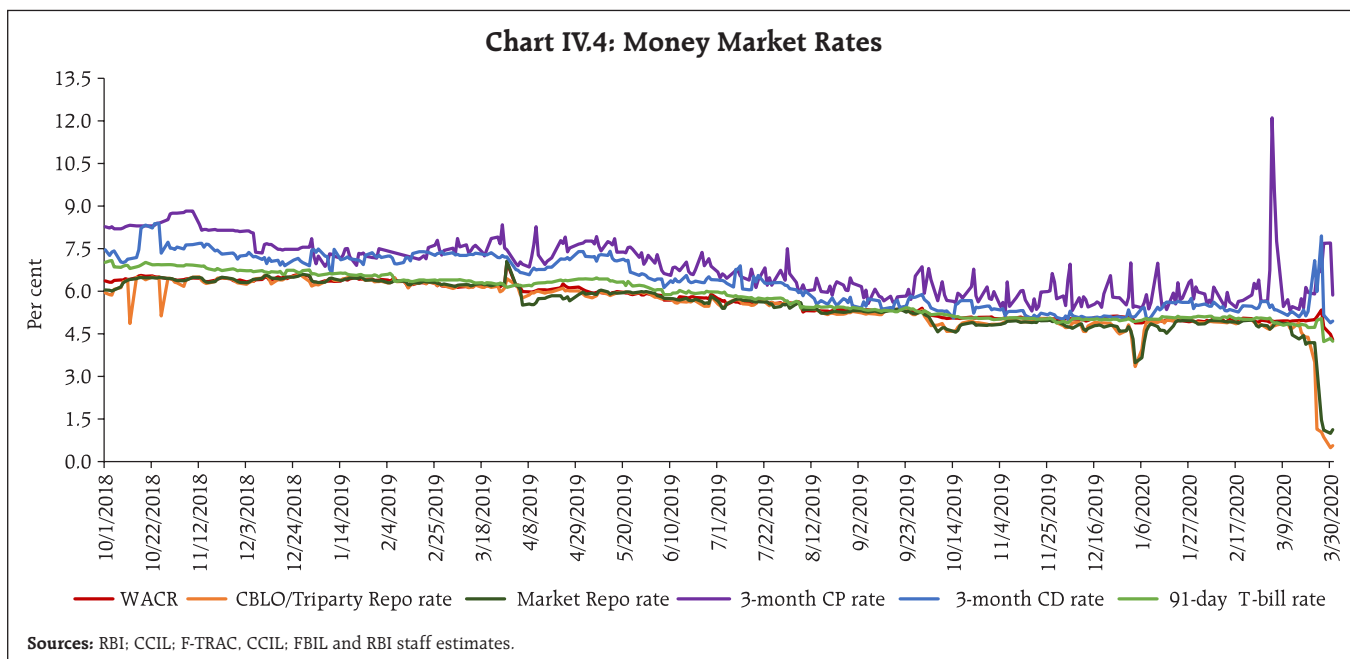
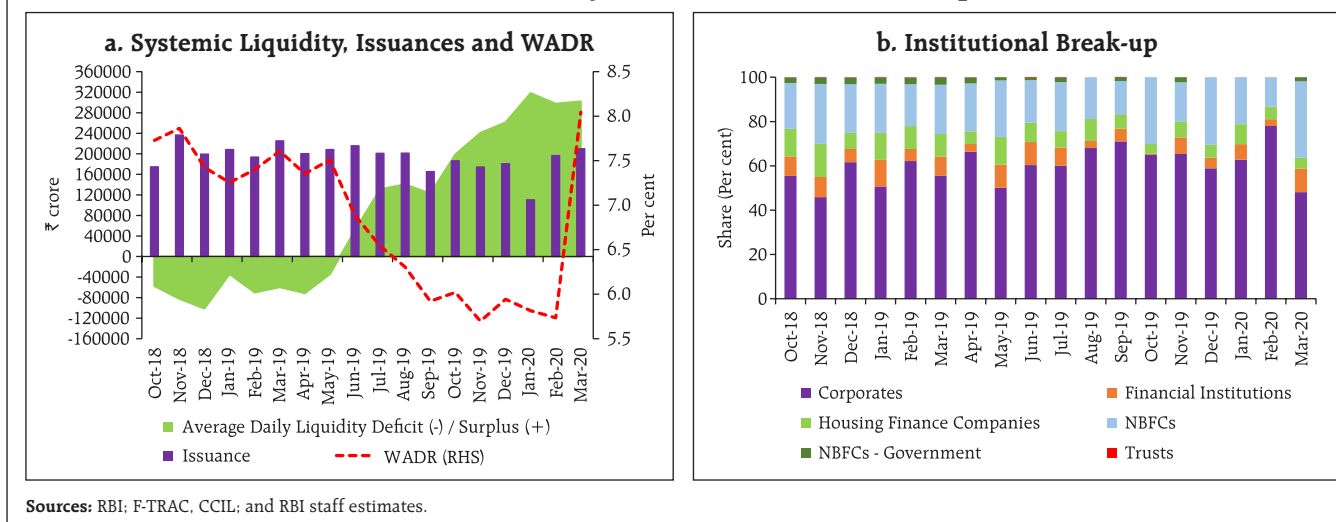


Chart IV.5: Primary Issuances of Commercial Paper



fears of illiquidity and market seizure post COVID-19 induced turbulence in global and domestic financial markets.

IV.1.2 Government Securities (G-sec) Market

At the beginning of H2:2019-20, the benchmark G-sec yield softened by 4 bps on (i) market expectations of monetary policy easing; (ii) the Centre's decision to announce the auction of a new 10-year paper; and (iii) a benign inflation trajectory. Yields, however, firmed up by 8 bps after the policy announcement on October 4, 2019 as the rate cut of 25 bps fell short of market expectations. Yields continued to harden thereafter due to persistent worries about the Centre's finances, expectation of a rise in inflation prints and subdued appetite for government paper. They moderated towards end-October, however, taking cues from (i) a

decline in the overnight index swap (OIS) rates; (ii) a fall in global crude oil prices; and (iii) softening of US treasury yields. Overall, the benchmark yield declined by 5 bps during October 2019.

Yields firmed up by 7 bps on both the new benchmark (6.45% GS 2029) and the old benchmark (7.26% GS 2029) as on November 5, 2019 reflecting concerns about fiscal slippages, and the hardening of US treasury yields. At the beginning of December, both benchmark yields increased due to market sentiment turning jittery about the Centre's fiscal position. On the day of the monetary policy announcement on December 5, yields hardened by 14 bps on the new benchmark and by 18 bps on the old benchmark in the wake of (i) the MPC's decision to keep the policy rate unchanged in the face of upside risks to inflation; and

Table IV.1: Policy Transmission in the Money Market

(basis points)

2019-20	Changes in rate						
	Repo	Call/Notice (WACR)	Triparty Repo	Market Repo	3-Month CD	91-Day T-Bill	3-Month CP
H1: (April 02 – Sep 30)	-85	-162	-111	-178	-132	-90	-59
H2: (Oct 01 – Mar 31)	-100	-111	-477	-416	-94	-100	-100

Note: easing (-) / hardening (+).

Sources: RBI; CCIL; F-TRAC, CCIL; FBIL; and RBI staff estimates.

(ii) foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) selling heavily on a pessimistic growth outlook. Market participants, however, welcomed the Reserve Bank’s decision to conduct special OMOs on December 19, which resulted in new and old benchmark yields shedding

15 bps and 13 bps, respectively.⁴ Yields softened at the long end, while firming up at the short-end, thereby reducing the term premium (Box IV.1). On the whole, the new and the old benchmark yields increased by 9 bps and 15 bps, respectively, in December.

Box IV.1: Estimating Term Premium and its Determinants

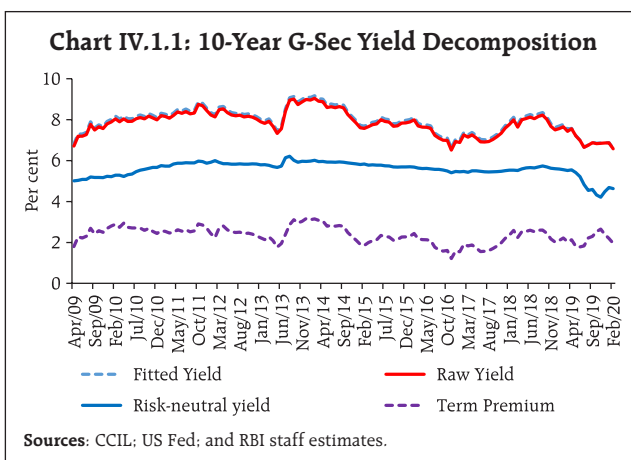
The term premium is the difference in yield of a long-term bond *vis-a-vis* a short-term bond and reflects the excess return investors demand for holding bonds of longer maturity (Swanson, 2007). The long-term interest rates at any maturity can be decomposed into two components: (i) risk-neutral rate that reflects expectations of future short-term rates; and (ii) term premium, which is indicative of investors’ expectations relating to future central bank policy, inflation and growth outlook, given the expected future path of short-term interest rates.

The Adrian, Crump and Moench (ACM) approach, which allows for the decomposition of yield into risk-neutral component and term premium, belongs to the regular class of dynamic term structure models (Adrian *et al.*, 2013). These models are premised on the no-arbitrage condition⁵. The ACM approach uses principal components of bond yields as pricing factors. The risk-neutral rate is modelled as a linear function of these pricing factors. The longer-term yields are also obtained as linear functions of the pricing factors, with appropriate restrictions on parameters to incorporate the assumptions of the no-arbitrage, affine term-structure models. The time-varying term premium is the difference between the model-fitted yield and the risk-neutral yield.

Decomposition

Empirical analysis in the Indian context involves decomposition of 10-year government bond yield into expectation and term premium components following the ACM methodology (Dilip, 2019), based on monthly data on 10-year G-sec yields spanning April 2009 to February 2020. This shows that the 10-year yield has broadly tracked movements in the term premium (Chart IV.1.1).

The contribution of the term premium in G-Sec yields approximated as $\frac{\Delta Term Premium^2}{\Delta Term Premium^2 + \Delta Risk-neutral yield^2}$ indicates that the term premium monotonically increases



across the term structure, accounting for more than 84 per cent of the fluctuations in 10-year G-Sec yields (Table IV.1.1). While term premium accounts for only about 27-39 per cent of the fluctuations in short-term yields (1 to 2-years), around 73-61 per cent of the variation is attributed to changes in expectation on short rates. In contrast, the US term premium explains a relatively higher proportion of variation in short-term yields.

Table IV.1.1: Share of Term Premium in Bond Yield Variations

Tenor	(per cent)	
	India	US
1-year	26.7	41.4
2-years	38.8	45.0
3-years	50.4	49.8
4-years	58.5	53.3
5-years	64.1	55.9
6-years	70.2	58.1
7-years	74.7	60.1
8-years	78.1	61.9
9 years	81.6	63.7
10 years	84.4	65.4

Source: RBI staff estimates.

(contd.)

⁴ Reflecting these operations, the 10-year G-sec yield softened cumulatively by 61 bps between December 19, 2019 and March 31, 2020. During the intervening period, however, the yields fell by as much as 69 bps.

⁵ Two securities that provide the same future cash flow and have the same level of risk must sell for the same price.

In order to identify the determinants of the term premium in India, the 10-year term premium is regressed on its own lag, G-Sec market depth proxied by daily average turnover as proportion of GDP, international oil prices, the INR-USD spot exchange rate, systemic liquidity measured by outstanding balances under the liquidity adjustment facility as proportion of GDP, and both global

and India-specific policy uncertainty represented by Global Economic Policy Uncertainty Index (GEPU) and Economic Policy Uncertainty (EPU) for India, respectively. The differenced series of all the explanatory variables is found to be stationary and the equation is estimated in an ordinary least squares (OLS) framework. Most of the estimated coefficients are statistically significant with expected signs (Table IV.1.2). The high coefficient of the lagged term indicates persistence of the term premium. The significance of the turnover and systemic liquidity variables is indicative of the important role of liquidity in higher demand for bonds and a consequent reduction in term premium. Movements in oil prices and the exchange rate of Indian Rupee (INR) also impact yields significantly – a spike in oil prices and a depreciation of the INR leads to search for safe haven assets among investors, resulting in flight to safety (panic selling) and increase in term premium. Global uncertainty (lagged) and Indian policy uncertainty, although having a positive impact, are not statistically significant.

Table IV.1.2: Determinants of Term Premium

Variable	Coefficient
Term_Premium (-1)	0.83 *** (9.60)
Δ Average_Turnover	-5.35*** (-5.57)
Δ (Crude_Oil_Price)	0.02***(6.65)
Δ (INR/USD)	0.08*** (3.33)
Δ (Systemic_Liquidity)	-0.89**(-2.14)
Δ (Global_Uncertainty)(-1)	0.003(0.77)
Δ (Policy_Uncertainty)	0.001(0.81)
c	0.29* (1.76)
R-bar ²	0.82
Durbin Watson	1.64
LB-Q (p-value)	0.59

***, **, * represent significance at 1%, 5% and 10% levels, respectively

Note: Figures in parentheses are t-statistics based on heteroscedasticity and autocorrelation consistent (HAC)-corrected standard errors; LB-Q is p-value of Box-Pierce-Ljung Q-statistic for the null hypothesis of no correlation up to 4 lags; and Δ is the difference operator.

Average_Turnover = Daily average turnover (% of GDP), Crude_Oil_Price = Price of Brent Crude Oil in USD/barrel, INR/USD = Spot Rupee-US Dollar exchange rate, Systemic_Liquidity = Outstanding LAF balance (% of GDP), Global_Uncertainty = Global Economic Policy Uncertainty Index (GEPU), Policy_Uncertainty = Economic Policy Uncertainty (EPU) for India.

Source: RBI staff estimates.

References:

Adrian, T., Crump, R. K., & Moench, E. (2013), "Pricing the term structure with linear regressions", *Journal of Financial Economics*, 110(1), 110-138.

Dilip, A. (2019), "Term premium spillover from the US to Indian markets", RBI Working Paper Series, WPS (DEPR): 05 / 2019, December.

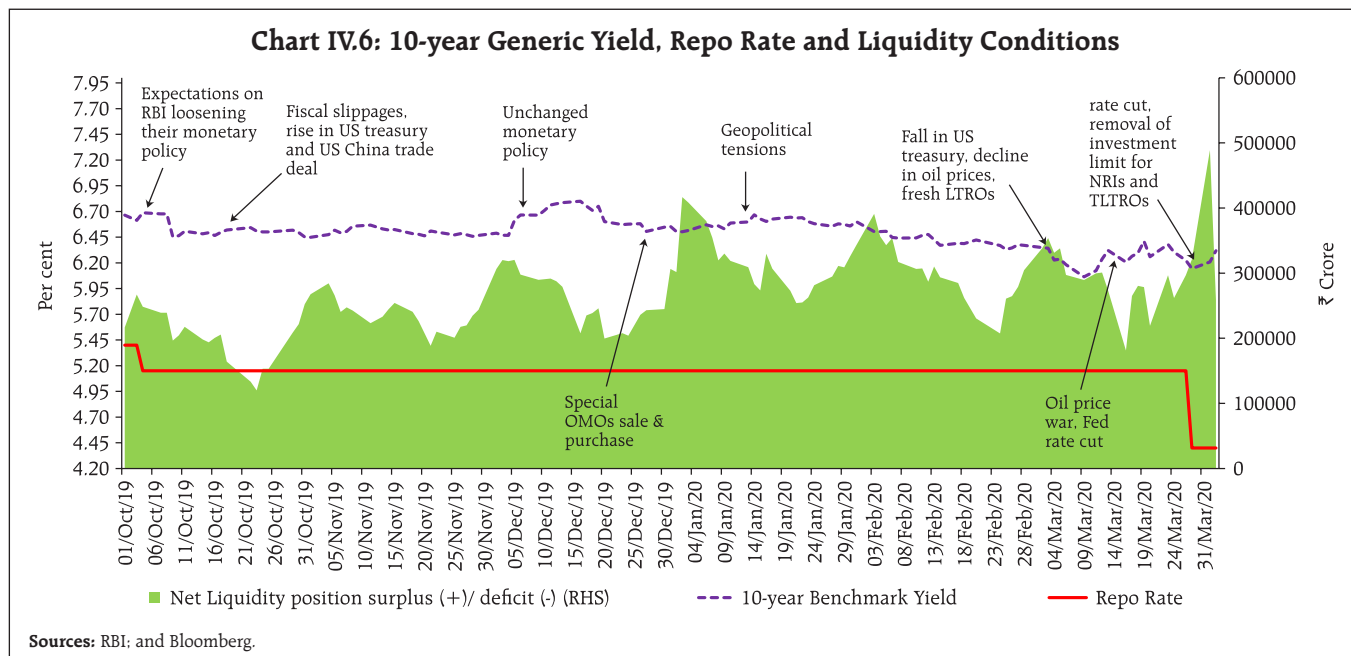
Swanson, E. T. (2007), "What we do and don't know about the term premium", FRBSF Economic Letter, Number 2007-21, July.

At the beginning of January, most government papers in the 10-14-year maturity segment gained on expectations of open market purchases of long-term bonds by the Reserve Bank. Bond prices, however, fell subsequently because of lower than expected cut-off in the special OMOs. The escalation in yields continued due to rising tensions between the US and Iran and a higher than expected inflation print in January 2020. Overall, the new and the old benchmark rose by 4 bps and 7 bps, respectively, during January 2020.

After the Union Budget, the market was pleasantly surprised as the government refrained from additional

market borrowing for 2019-20, despite an upward revision in the projected fiscal deficit. Consequently, new and old benchmark yields fell by 10 bps and 14 bps, respectively, at the beginning of February. Yields moderated significantly on announcement of long term repo operations (LTROs) to infuse additional liquidity at the policy rate (Chart IV.6).⁶ Overall, the new and the old benchmark fell by 23 bps and 26 bps, respectively, during February 2020.

⁶ Since the announcement of LTRO on February 6, yields on 1-year, 3-year, 5-year and benchmark 10-year G-sec paper have come down by 62 bps, 71 bps, 31 bps and 37 bps, respectively, by end-March, 2020.



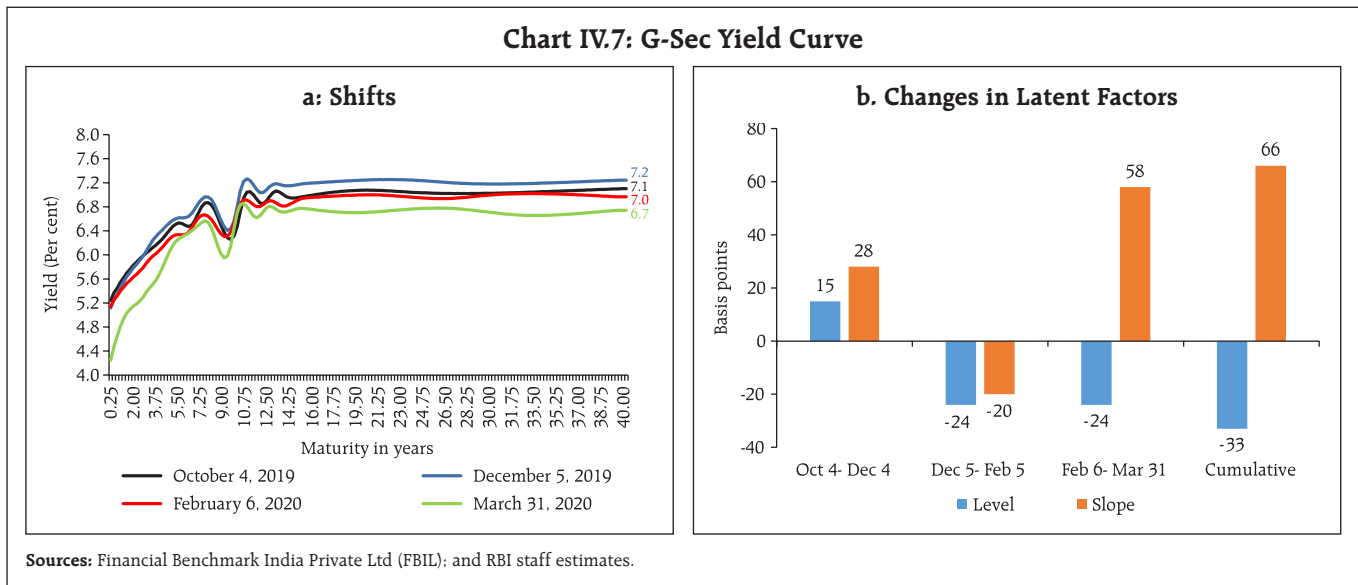
In early-March, yields started with a softening bias of 19 bps and 13 bps in the new and old benchmarks, respectively, due to (i) unscheduled reduction of 150 bps (in two phases) by the Fed in its policy rate; and (ii) fall in crude oil prices due to Saudi Arabia increasing its supply. Yields, however, hardened thereafter due to (i) crude prices firming up in the wake of the US pledging fiscal stimulus to arrest the pandemic; (ii) a sharp depreciation of the INR triggered by COVID-19 driven panic sales by FPIs; and (iii) fears of global recession triggering a shortfall in global dollar liquidity. Yield on the new benchmark, however, fell by 15 bps with announcement of OMO purchases on March 20. The fall in yields was, however, transient as (i) the rupee depreciated to a new record low; and (ii) shrinking G-sec volumes exacerbated the fall in prices. In the backdrop of COVID-19 related stress, the RBI announced several measures on March 27, 2020. In this milieu, while the market frowned over the prospect of larger than expected government borrowings, it welcomed the Reserve Bank's policy announcement to remove investment limit for non-residents in select dated securities. Overall, the new benchmark fell by 23 bps in March.

The yield curve underwent episodic shifts in H2:2019-20, characterised by its level and slope (Chart IV.7a).⁷ Since the October monetary policy announcement, the average level of the yield softened by 33 bps, while the slope became steeper by 66 bps. Since the February policy announcement (up to March 31, 2020), the average level of the yield softened by 24 bps even as the slope steepened by 58 bps (Chart IV.7b).

FPI Investments in G-sec

With inflation remaining range bound in October 2019, foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) remained net buyers in the debt market. They turned net sellers, however, till January 2020 on concerns about government finances along with Moody's downgrading of India's credit rating (to "negative" from "stable") and fears of sovereign rating downgrade by S&P Global ratings. The lower fiscal deficit projected for 2020-21 in the Union Budget buoyed sentiment and FPIs turned net buyers in February. With heightened turbulence

⁷ While the level is the average of all yields across maturities, the slope is represented by the difference in yield between the longest and the shortest maturity (term spread).



in domestic markets following worldwide financial market meltdown, FPIs again turned net sellers in March (Chart IV.8).

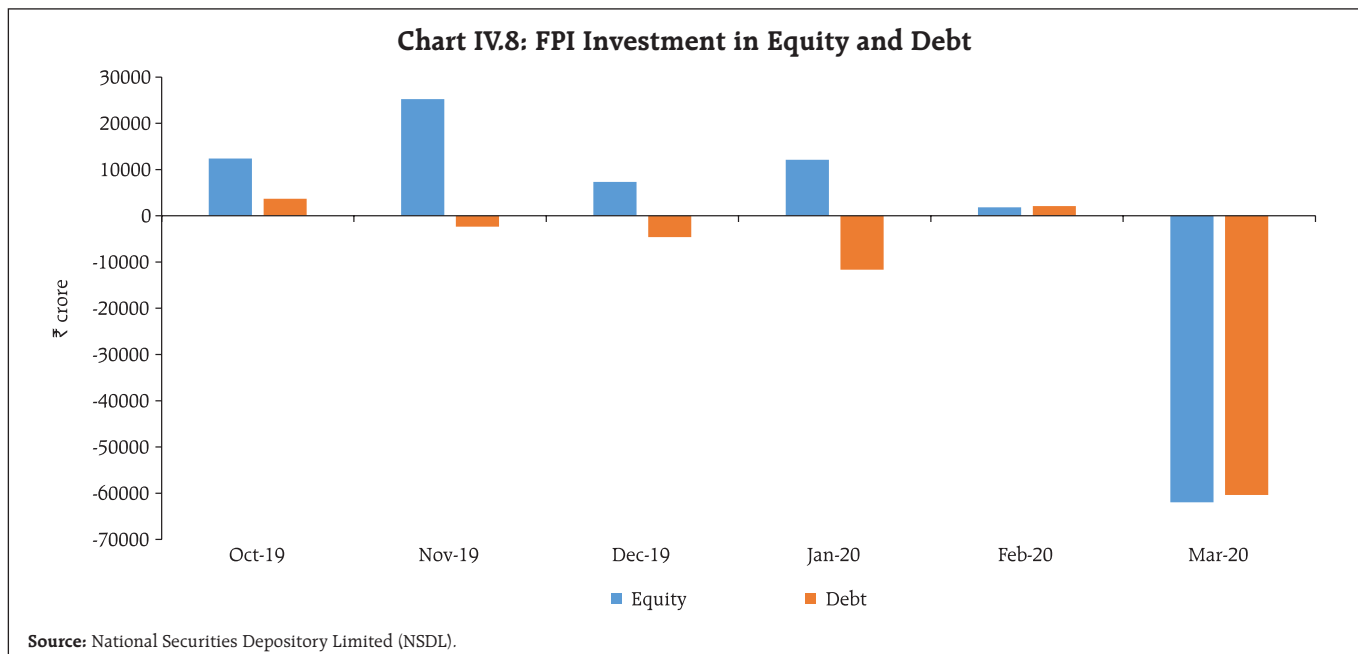
Treasury Bills

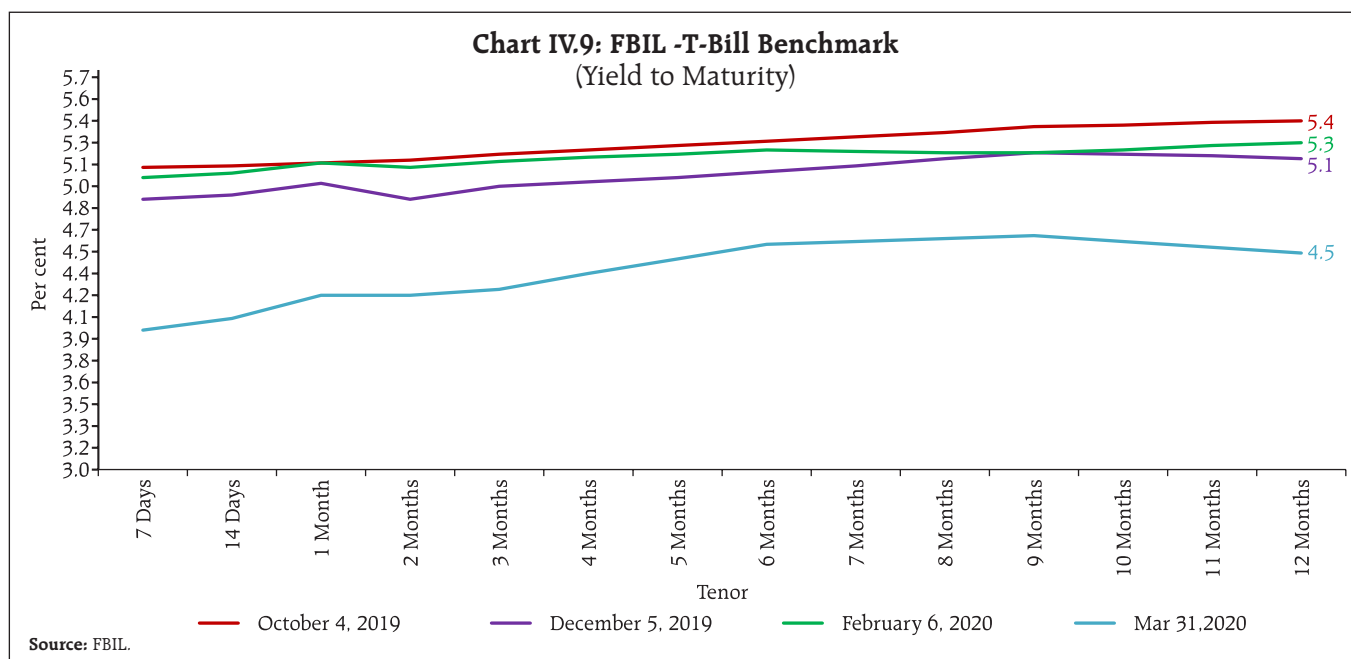
At the shorter end of the primary segment, yields on T-Bills softened during H2:2019-20, tracking the benchmark paper and even traded lower than the reverse repo rate in certain maturities due to surplus liquidity in the banking system (Chart IV.9).

The weighted average spread of state development loans (SDLs) cut-off over the corresponding G-sec yield increased to 55 bps in H2 from 52 bps in H1:2019-20 (Chart IV.10). The average inter-state spread on securities of 10-year tenor at 7.2 bps in H2 was higher by 3.2 bps than in H1.

Switching of Securities

During H2:2019-20, the Reserve Bank conducted seven switch operations amounting to ₹1,24,694 crore

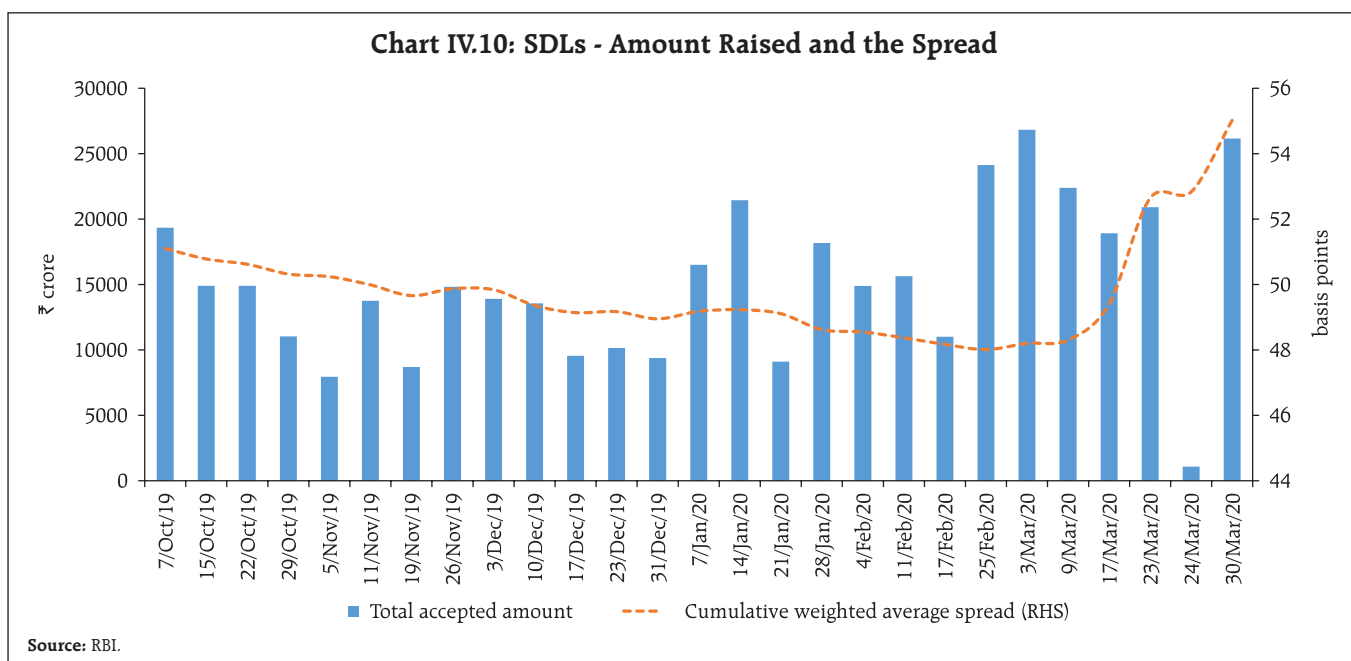




for active debt consolidation. This partly contributed to the weighted average maturity (WAM) of outstanding stock of G-secs increasing to 10.54 years as on March 31, 2020 from 10.02 years as on September 30, 2019. As on March 31, 2020, the weighted average coupon (WAC) at 7.69 per cent was lower than 7.77 per cent at end-September 2019.

Cash Balance of the Central Government

At the beginning of H2:2019-20, the Government started with a negative cash balance and continued to avail ways and means advances/overdraft (WMA/OD) intermittently up to end-March. Cash management bills (CMBs) were issued seven times during



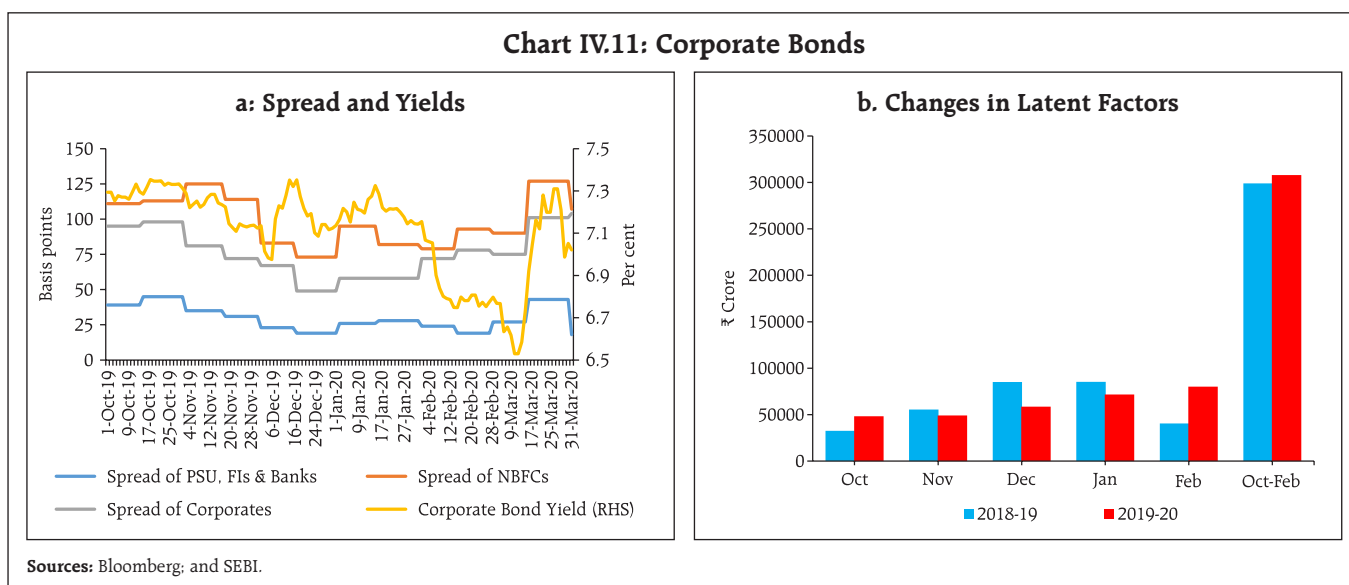
H2:2019-20 with maturities between 42-84 days⁸ for a cumulative amount of ₹2,50,000 crore or 104.2 per cent of the revised estimate of ₹2,40,000 crore of CMBs for 2019-20.

IV.1.3 Corporate Bond Market

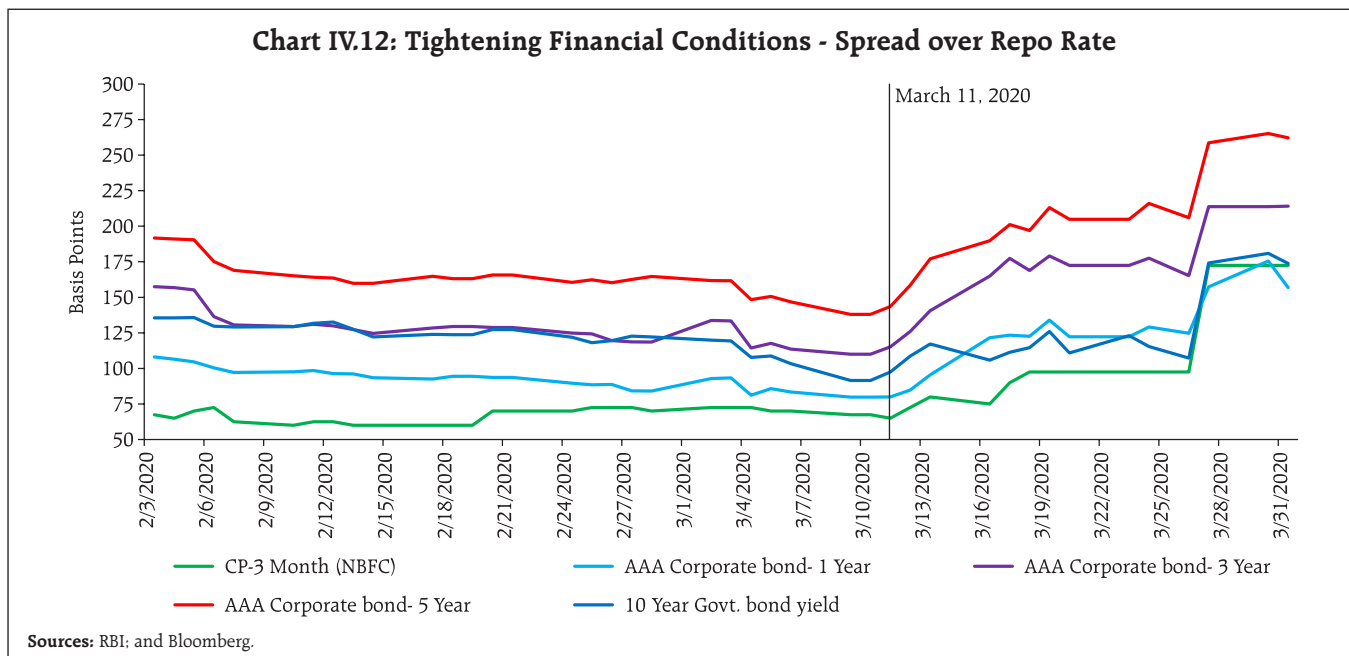
Corporate bond yields eased during H2:2019-20, largely tracking G-sec yields and reflecting surplus systemic liquidity conditions (Chart IV.11a). The AAA 5-year corporate bond yields softened by 42 bps – from 7.44 per cent at end-September 2019 to 7.02 per cent at end-March 2020. Overall, AAA 5-year yields moderated by 108 bps during 2019-20, reflecting the transmission of monetary policy actions to the corporate bond market and the impact of special OMOs and LTRO auctions during December 2019 - March 2020. The risk premia on bonds (5-year AAA corporate bonds over 5-year G-sec) issued by public sector undertakings (PSUs), financial institutions (FIs) and banks reduced by 26 bps while those issued by NBFCs reduced by 14 bps. In contrast, the risk premia on bonds issued by corporates increased by 5 bps. Reflecting the stress in the banking sector from a major private sector bank and declaration of the pandemic,

State Bank of India's and ICICI Bank's 5-year credit default swap (CDS) spreads increased by 174 bps and 163 bps, respectively, during H2: 2019-20.

Resource mobilisation through issuances of corporate bonds in the primary market at ₹3.1 lakh crore during October 2019-February 2020 was higher by 3.0 per cent than ₹3.0 lakh crore during the corresponding period of the previous year (Chart IV.11b). Almost the entire resource mobilisation in the corporate bond market (97.9 per cent) was through the private placement route. In order to provide an alternative source of financing for public sector entities at lower cost and help deepen bond markets by diversifying the investor base with increased retail participation, the Government of India (GoI) launched the Bharat Bond Exchange Traded Fund (ETF) in December 2019 – the first ETF for corporate bonds in India – which mobilised ₹12,395 crore. Investments by FPIs in corporate bonds declined by 14.8 per cent – from ₹2.03 lakh crore at end-September 2019 to ₹1.73 lakh crore at end-March 2020. Consequently, FPIs' utilisation of the approved limit for investment in corporate bonds declined to 54.5 per cent at end-



⁸ The maturities of the CMBs were designed to alleviate the liquidity tightness caused by advance tax outflows in the second half of March 2020.



March 2020 from 66.9 per cent at end-September 2019. The average daily turnover in the corporate bond market increased to ₹8,460 crore during H2:2019-20 (up to March 6, 2020) from ₹7,097 crore during the corresponding period of H2:2018-19.

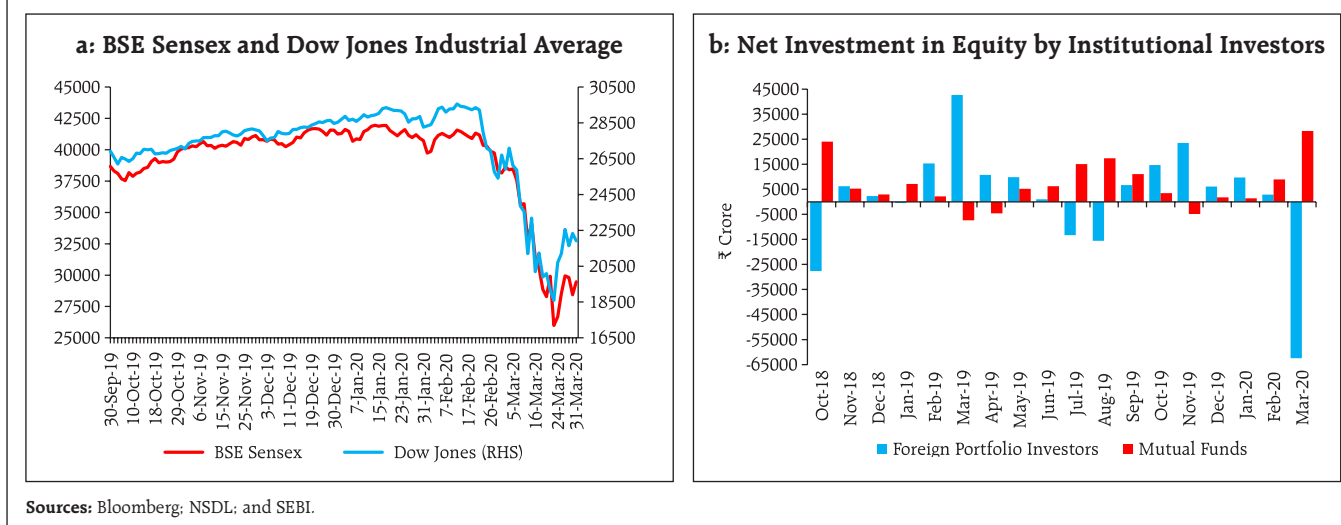
Following the declaration of COVID-19 as a pandemic on March 11, global financial markets were gripped by bearish sentiments. Heightened global turbulence resulted in a significant tightening of financial conditions in India since March 11, 2020 (Chart IV.12). While the spread of secondary market 3-month CP rates of NBFCs over the policy repo rate increased by 108 bps during the period March 11-31, that of AAA corporate bonds of 1-year, 3-year and 5-year maturity increased by 77, 99 and 119 bps, respectively. The spread of the benchmark 10-year G-sec over the policy repo rate also firmed up by 76 bps during the same period. The worsening of financial conditions is attributed to both external and domestic factors. While the upheaval in global markets sparked off panic sales by FPIs in search of safe haven assets, MFs liquidated their positions to create a liquidity buffer in anticipation of redemption pressures from investors.

IV.1.4 Equity Market

The Indian equity market, which made sizable gains till mid-January 2020, recorded a sharp decline in the remaining part of H2:2019-20 tracking the deterioration in global equity market sentiment due to COVID-19. The BSE Sensex touched the 40,000 level during Q3:2019-20 but it came under intense pressure during Q4: 2019-20. Overall, the Sensex declined by 23.8 per cent during H2:2019-20 (Chart IV.13a).

The BSE Sensex reclaimed the 40,000 level on October 30, 2019 taking positive cues from global markets amidst fresh optimism over the US-China trade negotiations and agreement on Brexit deal between the UK and the European Union (EU). The uptrend continued in November and December on the back of growth boosting measures by the Government of India (GoI), support to the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code amendment and approval for a partial credit guarantee scheme for public sector banks to purchase pooled assets from NBFCs. Furthermore, positive global signals emanating from the US Fed's dovish outlook, the US-China phase one trade deal and Brexit favouring UK election outcome also brightened market sentiment.

Chart IV.13: Stock Market Indices and Investment



The buoyancy in the equity market continued till mid-January 2020 against the backdrop of a fall in global crude prices, recovery in industrial output in November, higher GST collection and expansion in manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) in December which pushed the Sensex to a record close of 41953 on January 14, 2020. Markets wilted, however, following the escalation of geo-political tensions between the US and Iran, a subdued domestic GDP growth outlook along with downward revision of India's growth forecast for 2019-20 by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The decline got accentuated on February 1, 2020 with the Sensex plunging by 988 points (2.4 per cent) as proposals in the Union Budget 2020-21 fell short of market expectations. A V-shaped recovery, however, was witnessed on the back of a sharp fall in crude oil prices, release of robust PMI data for January 2020 and announcement of credit and liquidity enhancing measures on February 6, 2020. Subsequently, Indian equity markets retracted in line with global markets reacting to COVID-19.

Growing risk aversion across the world triggered heavy sell-offs in equity markets, including in India, during March 2020. The BSE Sensex fell by 2919 points

(8.2 per cent) on March 12, 2020. Market sentiment worsened the following day as market fell over 10 per cent during early hours of trading, attracting circuit breakers and suspension of trading for 45 minutes. This was followed by a statement from SEBI indicating that the fall in the Indian stock indices had been significantly lower than in many other countries and assuring market participants of suitable and appropriate actions, if required. Market rebounded, ending the day with a net gain of 1325 points (4.0 per cent), the largest ever recovery in a single day. Subsequently, however, bearish momentum returned due to (i) sharp moderation in global crude prices; (ii) reports of a spike in COVID-19 cases in India; (iii) strain on the banking sector caused by the distress of a private sector bank; and (iv) growing worries about global recession. Consequently, the Indian equity market breached the lower circuit for the second time during March 2020 with the BSE Sensex recording its biggest fall of 3,935 points (13.2 per cent) on March 23, 2020. Markets recovered thereafter amid expectations of fiscal measures by the government after the announcement of extension of regulatory deadlines and relaxation of norms for corporates and taxpayers. Subsequently, expectations of more fiscal stimulus buoyed market sentiment. Notwithstanding the

announcement of comprehensive liquidity measures by the Reserve Bank including sizeable reduction in policy rates, the BSE Sensex fell marginally on March 27. Overall, the BSE Sensex registered a sharp decline of 23.0 per cent during March 2020.

During H2, while MFs were net buyers to the tune of ₹ 38,989 crore (up to March 30), FPIs were net sellers at ₹5,599 crore in the Indian equity market (Chart IV.13b). FPIs, in particular, sold heavily with net sales amounting to ₹62,433 crore in March 2020.

In the primary segment of the equity market, resource mobilisation through public issues of equity (initial public offers and right issues) remained muted at ₹6,176 crore during October 2019-February 2020 (although higher than ₹3,429 crore in the corresponding period of the previous year).

IV.1.5 Foreign Exchange Market

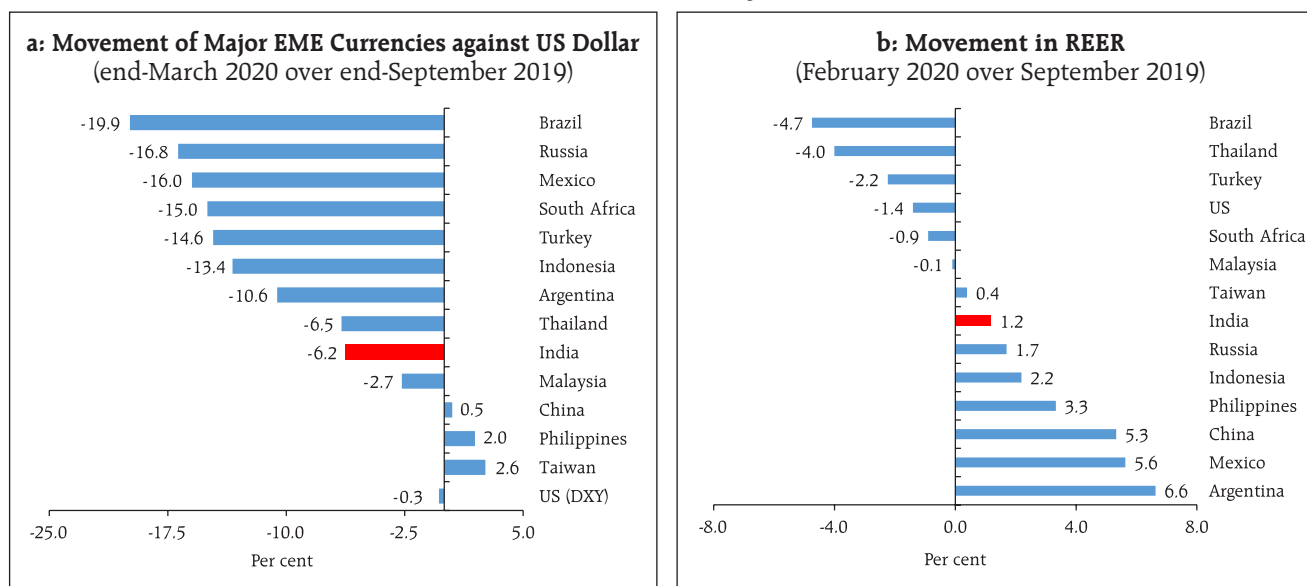
The INR remained volatile during H2:2019-20 due to multiple factors referred to in preceding sections and the high volatility in equity markets. Portfolio investment was severely impacted. Consequently,

EME currencies, including the INR, weakened sharply in March, with the latter depreciating to a low of ₹76.15 on March 24, 2020. While the INR depreciated by 6.2 per cent *vis-à-vis* the US dollar during H2:2019-20 (end-March 2020 over end-September 2019), the decline was modest in comparison with many EME peers such as the Thai baht, the Argentine peso, the Indonesian rupiah, the Turkish lira, the South African rand, the Mexican peso, the Russian ruble, and the Brazilian real (Chart IV.14a).

In terms of the 36-currency nominal effective exchange rate (NEER), the INR depreciated by 2.9 per cent (as at end-March 2020 over average of September 2019). The INR also depreciated by 1.3 per cent in terms of the 36-currency real effective exchange rate (REER) during the same period (Table IV.2).

Between September 2019 and February 2020, the appreciation of the INR in terms of the REER was modest as compared with those of the Russian ruble, the Indonesian rupiah, the Philippine peso, the Chinese yuan, the Mexican peso, and the Argentine peso (Chart IV.14b).

Chart IV.14: Cross-Currency Movements



Sources: RBI; FBIL; IMF; Bloomberg; Thomson Reuters; and Bank for International Settlements (BIS).

Table IV.2: Nominal and Real Effective Exchange Rates – Trade-based Weights

(Base: 2004-05 = 100)

Item	Index: end-March 2020 (P)	Appreciation (+) / Depreciation (-) (Per cent)
		end-March 2020 over September (average) 2019
36-currency REER	114.6	-1.3
36-currency NEER	71.1	-2.9
6-currency REER	120.3	-4.5
6-currency NEER	60.3	-5.5
₹/ US\$	75.4	-5.4

P: Provisional.

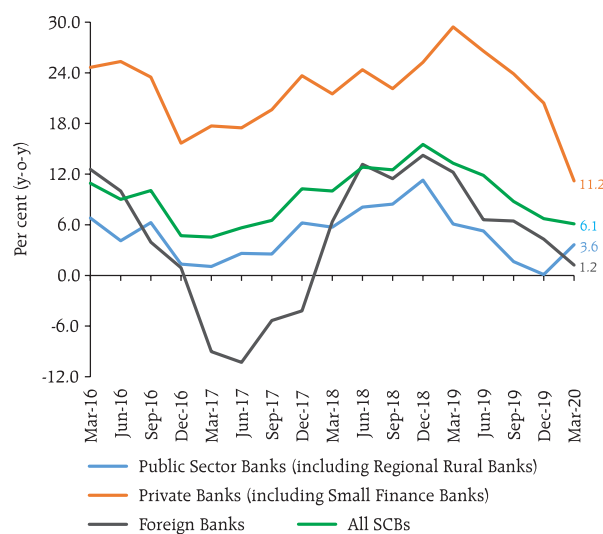
Sources: RBI; and FBIL.

IV.1.6 Credit Market

Credit offtake during 2019-20 (up to March 13, 2020) was muted with non-food credit growth at 6.1 per cent being less than half the growth of 14.4 per cent in the corresponding period of the previous year. Both low momentum and unfavourable base effects were at work (Chart IV.15). The seasonal decline in Q3 credit growth in 2019-20 was more pronounced than a year ago, while the offtake during Q4:2019-20 (up to March 13) has been subdued as compared with the corresponding quarters of previous two years.

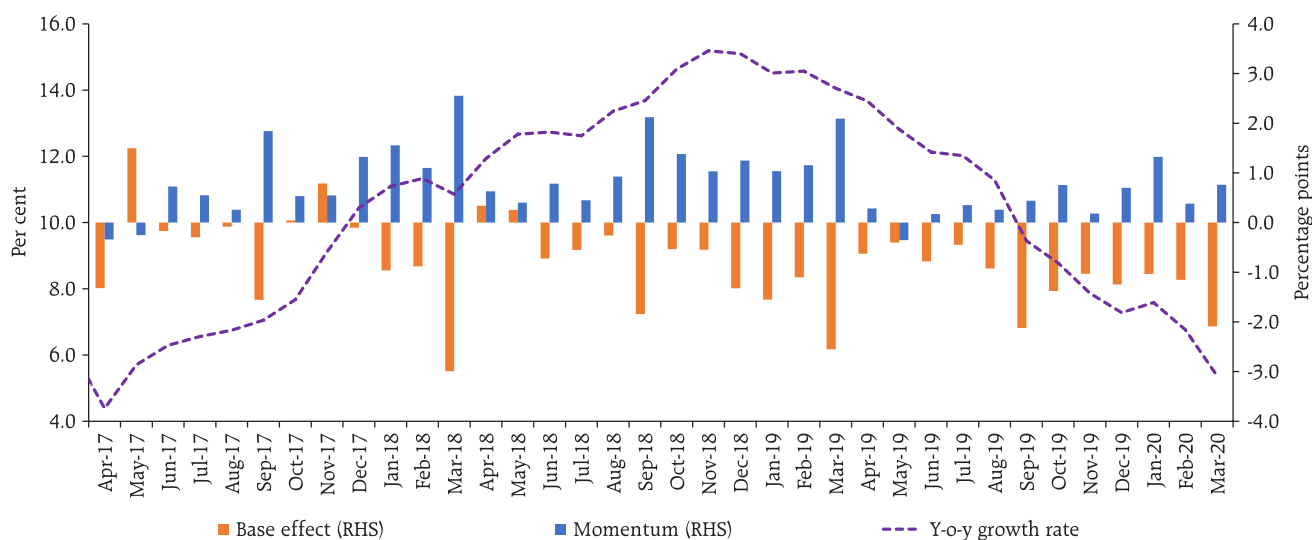
The slowdown in credit growth was spread across all bank groups, especially private sector banks. Credit growth of public sector and foreign banks remained modest, even as there has been some uptick in credit by public sector banks in the recent period (Chart IV.16). Of the incremental credit extended by scheduled commercial banks (SCBs) during the year

Chart IV.16: Bank Group-wise Credit Growth



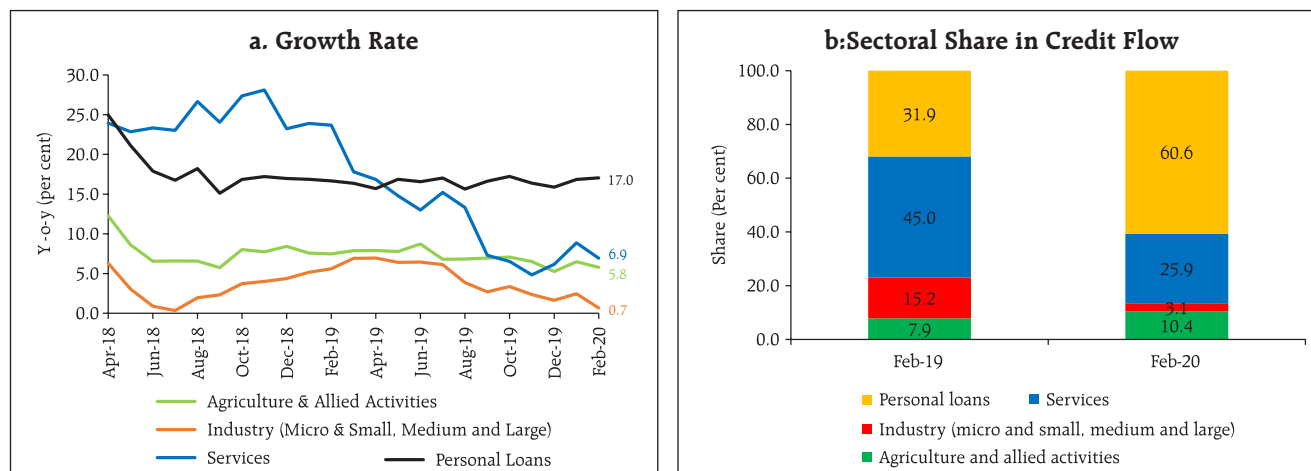
Source: RBI.

Chart IV.15: Non-food Credit Growth of SCBs (Monthly Average)



Source: RBI.

Chart IV.17: Sectoral Deployment of Credit



Source: RBI.

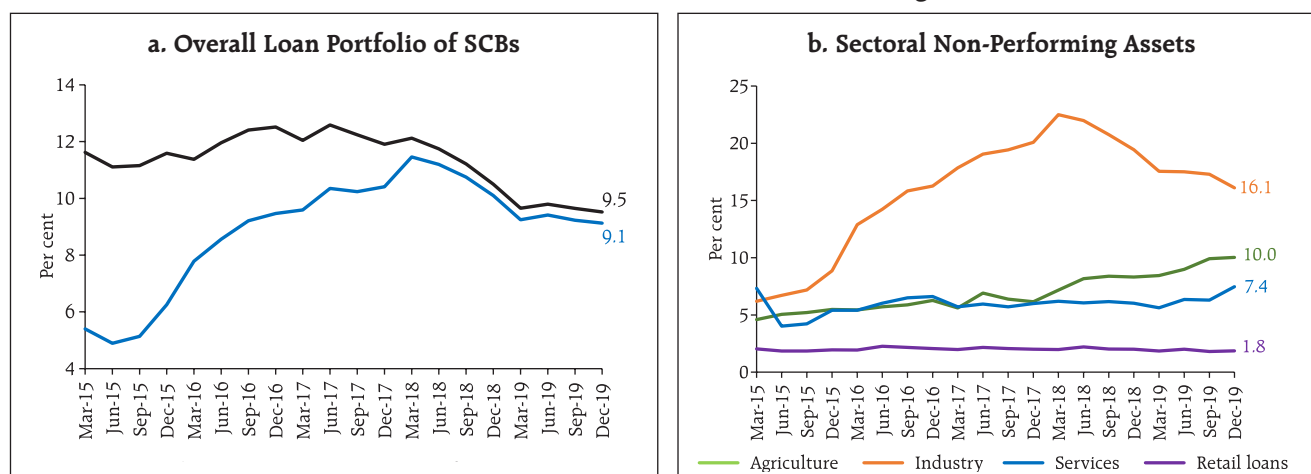
(March 15, 2019 to March 13, 2020), 62.6 per cent was provided by private sector banks, 36.6 per cent by public sector banks and 0.8 per cent by foreign banks.

While growth (y-o-y) of personal loans accelerated marginally to 17.0 per cent in February 2020 from 16.7 per cent in February 2019, credit growth to both agriculture and industry moderated over the last five months. Although credit growth to the services sector showed an uptick in January 2020, it again weakened in February 2020 (Chart IV.17a). Credit offtake in personal loans segment accounted for the largest share (Chart IV.17b). Within the personal loan

segment, credit offtake has been mainly concentrated in housing and credit card outstandings. Within industry, credit growth to beverage and tobacco accelerated, but credit flows to chemical and chemical products, cement and cement products, construction and infrastructure decelerated. Credit to basic metal and metal products, textiles, food processing and all engineering contracted in February 2020.

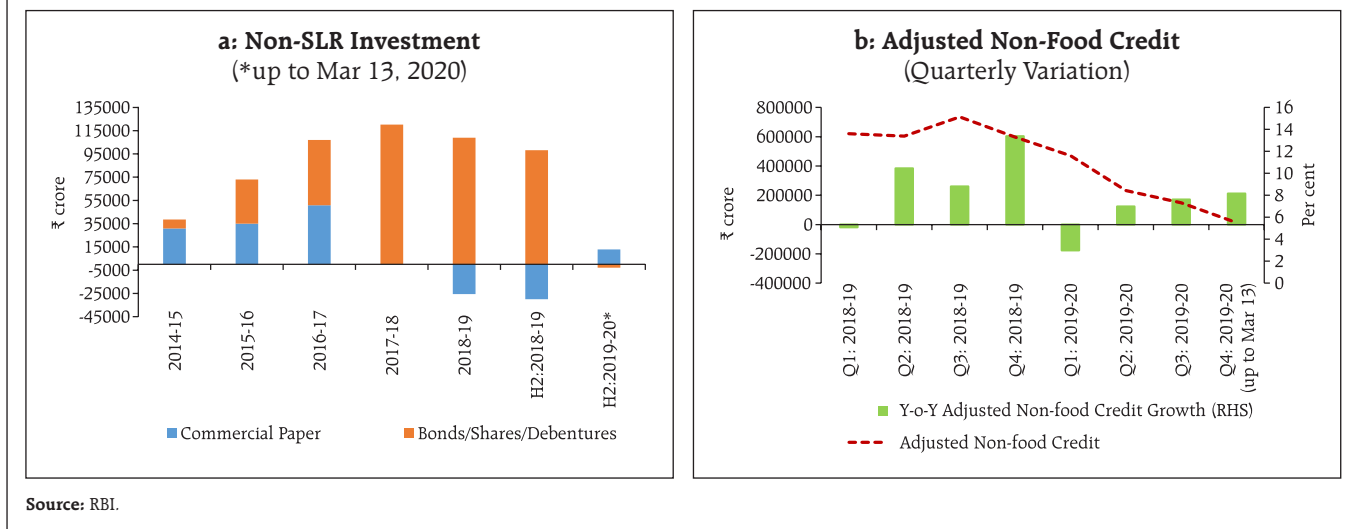
Even as the overall non-performing assets (NPA) ratio of SCBs remained unchanged in December 2019 from end-March 2019 (Chart IV.18a), the NPA ratio in respect of industry dipped (Chart IV.18b).

Chart IV.18: Stressed Assets and Non-Performing Assets



Source: RBI.

Chart IV.19: Non-SLR Investment and Adjusted Non-Food Credit



Banks’ investments in CPs, bonds, debentures and shares of public and private corporates – reflected in non-SLR investment – were lower during H2:2019-20 (up to March 13) than a year ago mainly due to lower investment in bonds/shares and debentures (Chart IV.19a). As a result, adjusted non-food credit growth was lower in Q4:2019-20 (up to March 13) than in Q3 (Chart IV.19b).

With credit offtake remaining muted and non-SLR investments declining, banks augmented their

SLR portfolios. Banks held excess SLR of 8.4 per cent of net demand and time liabilities (NDTL) on Feb 28, 2020 as compared with 6.3 per cent of NDTL at end-March 2019 (Chart IV.20).

IV.2 Monetary Policy Transmission

Since the October 2019 Monetary Policy Report, monetary policy transmission to banks’ term deposit and lending interest rates has improved (Table IV.3). The pass-through of the policy rate cut to the weighted

Chart IV.20: Excess SLR of Banks

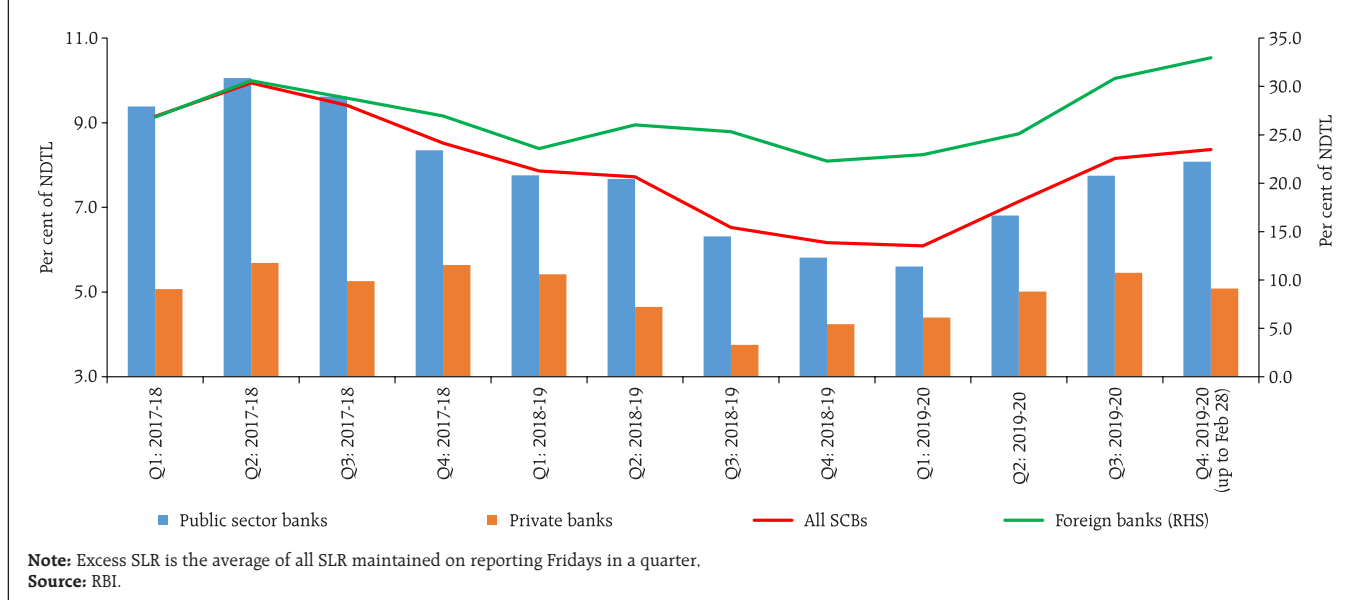


Table IV.3: Transmission to Deposit and Lending Rates

(Basis points)

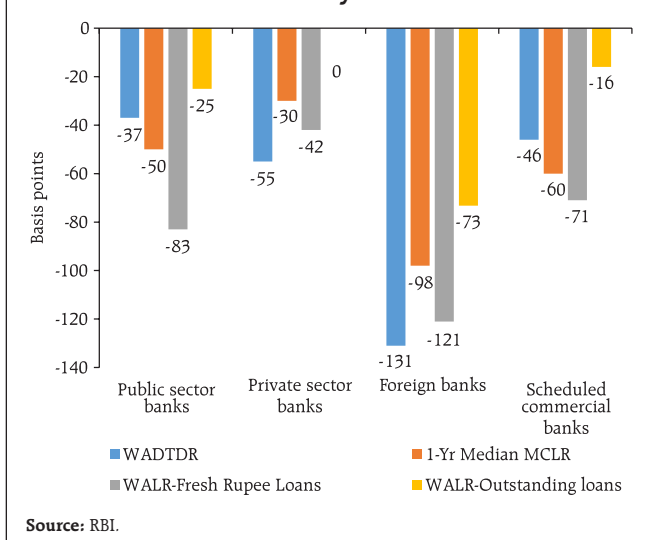
Period	Repo Rate	Term Deposit Rates		Lending Rates		
		Median Term Deposit Rate	WADTDR	1-year Median MCLR	WALR - Outstanding Rupee Loans	WALR - Fresh Rupee Loans
February-September 2019	-110	-9	-7	-30	2	-40
October 2019-March 2020*	-100	-29	-39	-30	-18	-31
February 2019-March 2020*	-210	-48	-46	-60	-16	-71

*: Latest data on WALR and WADTDR pertain to February 2020. WADTDR: Weighted Average Domestic Term Deposit Rate. WALR: Weighted Average Lending Rate. MCLR: Marginal Cost of Funds-based Lending Rate. Source: RBI.

average domestic term deposit rate (WADTDR) on outstanding rupee deposits improved to 39 bps during October 2019-February 2020 from a mere 7 bps during the previous eight months (February-September 2019), resulting in an overall reduction of 46 bps. The weighted average lending rate (WALR) on outstanding rupee loans has also declined by 18 bps since October 2019 in contrast to a rise of 2 bps during February-September 2019. The WALR on fresh rupee loans declined by 71 bps (February 2019-February 2020). Of this, a decline of 31 bps occurred during October 2019-February 2020.

The improvement in transmission during H2:2019-20 to banks' deposit and lending interest rates reflected the lagged impact of the previous rate cuts (110 bps during February-September 2019) as also the introduction of the external benchmark system from October 1, 2019 for the pricing of new floating rate loans to select sectors, viz., retail loans and loans to micro and small enterprises (MSEs).⁹

Chart IV.21: Transmission Across Bank Groups during Easing Cycle: February 2019 - February 2020



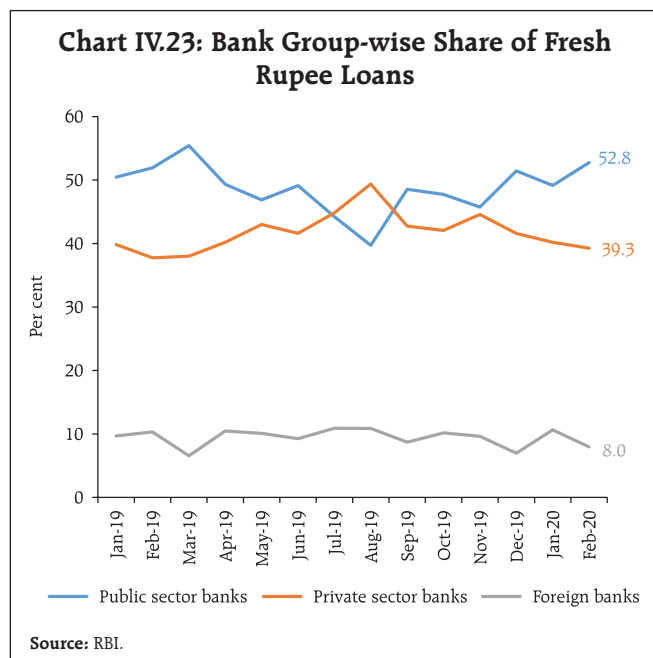
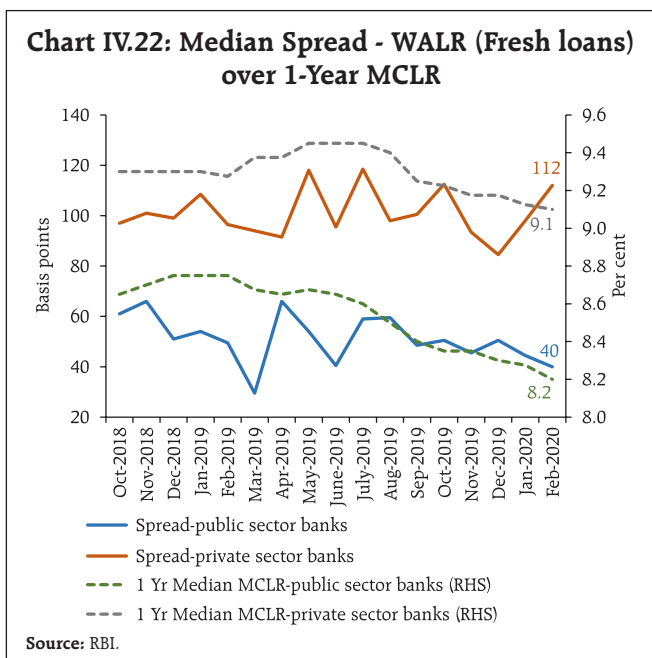
During February 2019 - February 2020, the WALR on fresh rupee loans declined across bank groups, with the largest decline observed in the case of foreign banks, followed by public sector banks (Chart IV.21).

The median spread¹⁰ [WALR on fresh rupee loans over 1-year median marginal cost of funds-based lending rate (MCLR)] charged by private sector banks was higher than that of public sector banks, reflecting, *inter alia*, differences in the lending portfolio (Chart IV.22). Sector-specific WALRs in respect of sectors such as micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), credit card and other personal loans were higher than the overall WALR for both public and private sector banks. The share of loans to each of these sectors in total loans sanctioned by private sector banks was higher than that of public sector banks.

The share of public sector banks in fresh rupee loans sanctioned by scheduled commercial banks was comparable to that of private sector banks during April-August 2019, even though public sector banks account for a significantly larger share in outstanding

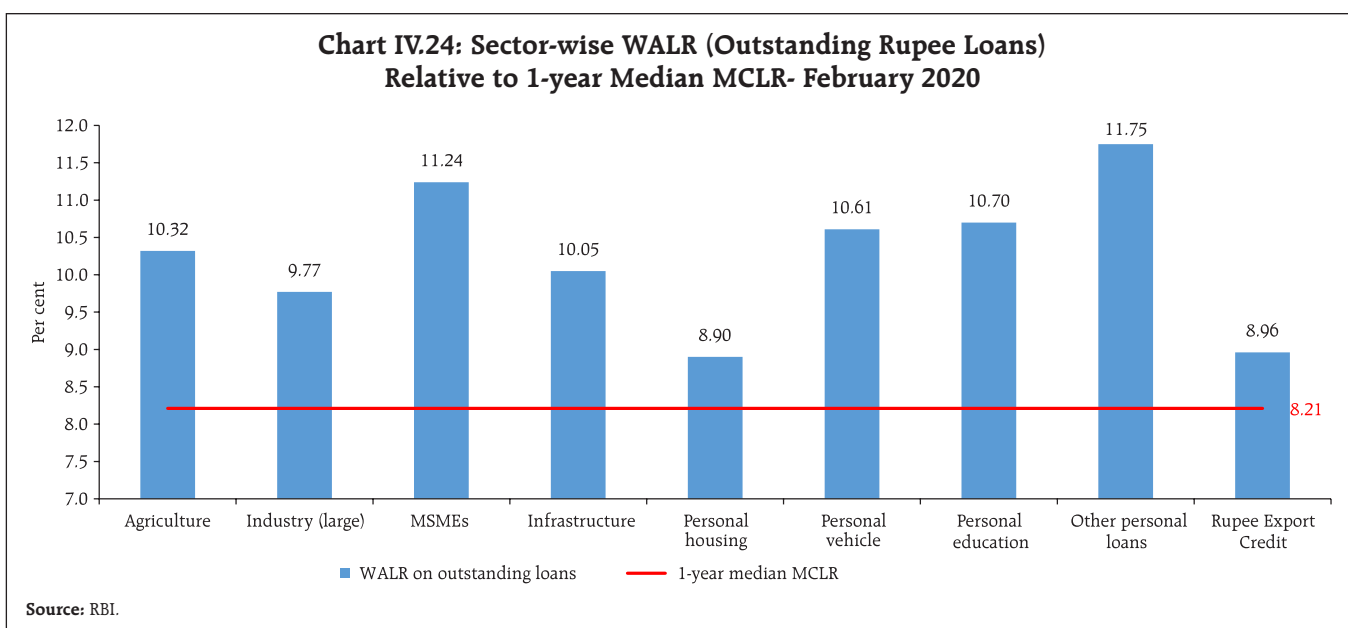
⁹ Effective April 1, 2020, loans to medium enterprises have also been linked to an external benchmark.

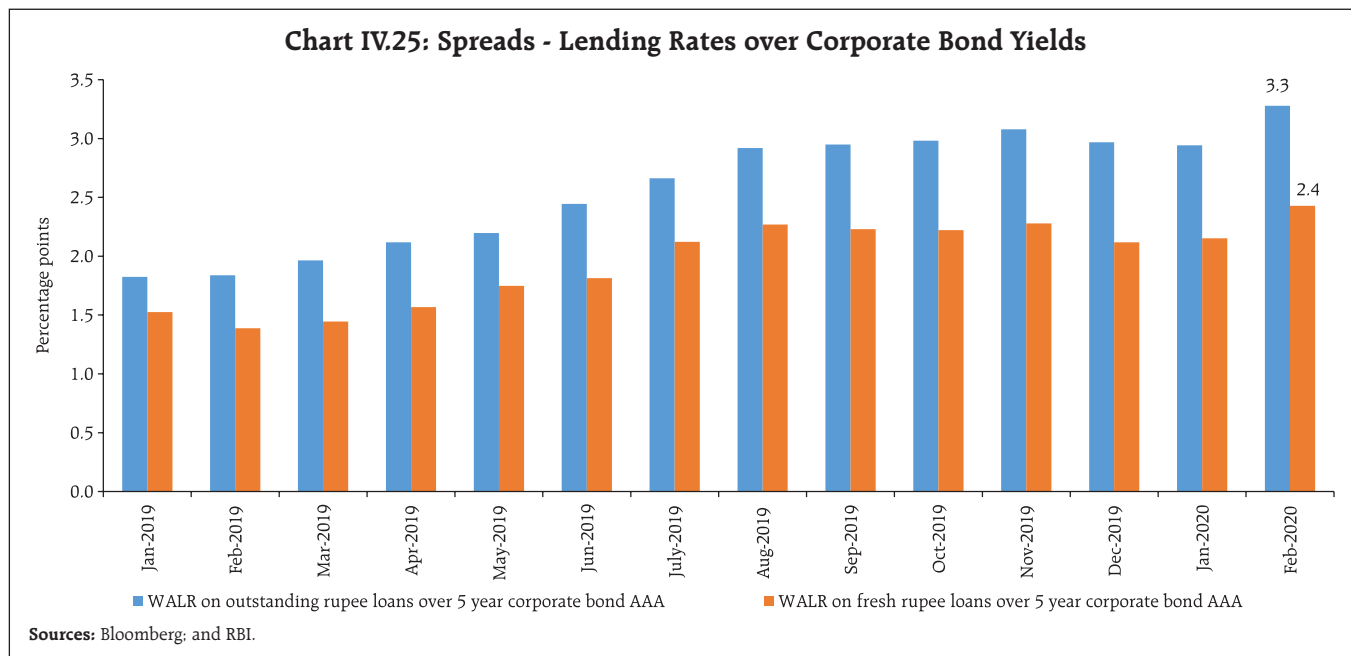
¹⁰ Median spread of a bank group is arrived at from the spread (difference between WALR on fresh rupee loans and 1-year MCLR) of each bank within the group.



credit. In comparison with private sector banks, non-performing assets of public sector banks have been higher and the capital to risk weighted assets ratio (CRAR) lower. Despite this, the share of public sector banks in total fresh rupee loans sanctioned by scheduled commercial banks increased to 52.8 per cent from a low of 39.7 per cent in August 2019 (Chart IV.23).

Spreads, *i.e.*, WALR on outstanding rupee loans over 1-year MCLR charged by scheduled commercial banks, were lowest in respect of housing loans, reflecting lower probability of default and availability of collateral, as also competition from NBFCs (Chart IV.24). Personal loans – other than housing, vehicles and education – are mostly unsecured and involve higher credit risk; hence, the spread charged was the highest for 'other personal loans'.





The spreads between lending rates in the credit market and corporate bond yields have risen sharply since January 2019, implying faster transmission of policy rate cuts to the corporate bond market as against relatively muted transmission to the credit market (Chart IV.25).

Following the introduction of the external benchmark system in the banking sector on October 1, 2019, 36 banks – out of 62 banks from whom information was collected – adopted the policy repo rate as the external benchmark for floating rate loans to the retail and MSE sectors (Table IV.4). Six banks

have linked their loans to various other benchmarks published by Financial Benchmarks India Private Ltd (FBIL) such as CD rate, overnight index swap (OIS) rate, Mumbai Interbank Outright Rate (MIBOR) and 3-month T-Bill rate. Eleven banks have linked different sectors to different benchmarks.

The median spread in respect of fresh rupee loans linked to the policy repo rate (*i.e.*, median WALR over the repo rate) was the highest for 'other personal loans' (Table IV.5). Among the bank-groups, the median spread charged by public sector banks for different categories of loans was lower than that charged by private sector banks.

Table IV.4: External Benchmarks of Commercial Banks: February 2020

Bank Group	Policy Repo Rate	CD Rate	OIS Rate	MIBOR	3-Month T-Bill Rate	Sector-specific Benchmark
Public Sector Banks (15)	14	-	-	-	-	1
Private Banks (20)	15	1	-	-	-	4
Foreign Banks (27) [@]	7	-	1	1	3	6
Commercial banks (62)[@]	36	1	1	1	3	11

[@] 9 banks do not have any exposure to retail loans and MSE loans segments.

Note: Figures in parentheses refer to the number of banks.

Source: RBI.

Table IV.5: Loans Linked to the Policy Repo Rate - Median Spread (February 2020)

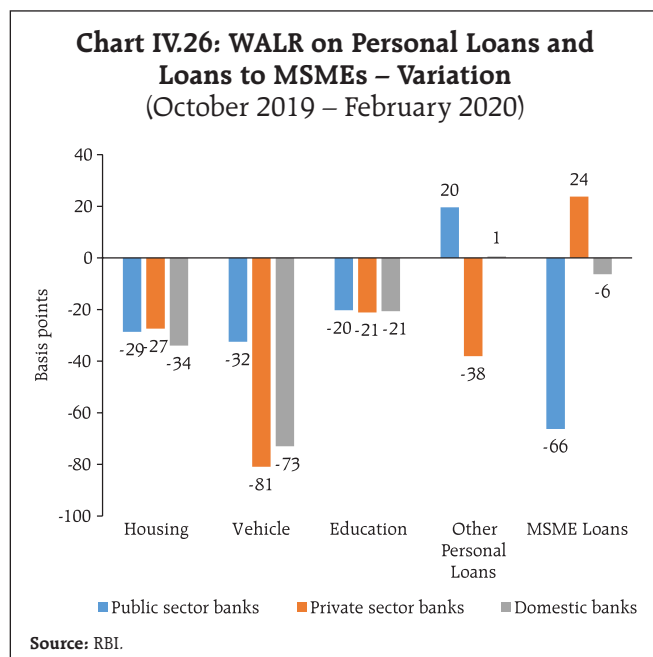
(Percentage points)

Bank Group	Personal Loan				Micro and Small Enterprises
	Housing	Vehicle	Education	Other Personal Loans	
Public Sector Banks (15)	3.3	4.6	4.2	6.7	5.8
Private Sector Banks (20)	5.3	6.2	6.8	7.1	6.4
Domestic Banks (35)	4.0	4.9	4.6	6.8	6.1

Source: RBI.

There are early indications of an improvement in transmission to fresh rupee loans sanctioned in respect of sectors where new floating rate loans have been linked to the external benchmark. During October 2019 - February 2020, the WALRs of domestic (public and private sector) banks declined in respect of fresh rupee loans sanctioned for housing loans by 34 bps, vehicle loans by 73 bps, education loans by 21 bps and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) by 6 bps (Chart IV.26).

Administered interest rates on small saving schemes set by the Government of India have implications for monetary transmission. These administered interest rates are linked to market yields on G-secs with a lag and are fixed on a quarterly basis at a spread ranging from 0-100 bps over and above G-sec yields of comparable maturities. On March 31, 2020, the Government of India sharply reduced rates of interest on all small saving schemes (except saving deposit) in the range of 70-140 bps for Q1:2020-21. Following the revision, interest rates on small saving



schemes for Q1:2020-21 are broadly aligned with the prescribed formula based administered interest rates on small savings (Table IV.6). This augurs well for monetary transmission, going forward.

Table IV.6: Interest Rates on Small Saving Instruments - Q1:2020-21

Small Savings Scheme	Maturity (years)	Spread (Percentage point) \$	Average G-sec yield (%) of Corresponding Maturity (December 2019 to February 2020)	Formula based Rate of Interest (%) (Applicable for Q1: 2020-21)	Government Announced Rate of Interest (%) (Q1:2020-21)	Difference between Government Announced Rate and the Formula-based Rate (basis points)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5) = (3) + (4)	(6)	(7) = (6)-(5)
Savings Deposit	-	-	-	-	4.00	-
Public Provident Fund	15	0.25	6.88	7.13	7.10	-3
Term Deposits						
1 Year	1	0	5.15	5.15	5.50	35
2 Year	2	0	5.47	5.47	5.50	3
3 Year	3	0	5.78	5.78	5.50	-28
5 Year	5	0.25	6.41	6.66	6.70	4
Post Office Recurring Deposit Account	5	0	5.78	5.78	5.80	2
Post Office Monthly Income Scheme	5	0.25	6.38	6.63	6.60	-3
Kisan Vikas Patra	124 Months	0	6.88	6.88	6.90	2
NSC VIII issue	5	0.25	6.57	6.82	6.80	-2
Senior Citizens Saving Scheme	5	1.00	6.41	7.41	7.40	-1
Sukanya Samridhi Account Scheme	21	0.75	6.88	7.63	7.60	-3

\$. Spreads for fixing small saving rates as per Government of India Press Release of February 16, 2016.

Note: Compounding frequency varies across instruments.

Sources: Government of India; and RBI staff estimates.

IV.3. Liquidity Management and the Operating Procedure of Monetary Policy

The RBI Act, 1934 amended in 2016 requires the RBI to place the operating procedure relating to the implementation of monetary policy and changes thereto from time to time, if any, in the public domain. During H2:2019-20, liquidity management

operations by the RBI were conducted in line with the revised liquidity management framework announced on February 6, 2020 and guided by the need to ease liquidity constraints in the banking system and financial markets on account of COVID-19 related stress (Box IV.2). During H1 and a major part of H2:2019-20, systemic liquidity increased mainly on

Box IV.2: Revised Liquidity Management Framework

As announced in the Statement on Developmental and Regulatory Policies of June 6, 2019, an Internal Working Group was set up to review the liquidity management framework with a view to simplifying it and suggesting measures to clearly communicate the objectives and the toolkit for liquidity management. The Group's report was placed on the Reserve Bank's website on September 26, 2019 for comments from stakeholders and members of the public (RBI, 2019). Based on the feedback received, it was decided to fine-tune the erstwhile liquidity management framework. The key elements of the revised framework are set out below:

- (i) Liquidity management remains the operating procedure of monetary policy; the weighted average call rate (WACR) continues to be its operating target.
- (ii) The liquidity management corridor is retained, with the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate as its upper bound (ceiling) and the fixed rate reverse repo rate as the lower bound (floor), with the policy repo rate in the middle of the corridor.
- (iii) The width of the corridor is retained at 50 basis points – the reverse repo rate being 25 basis points below the repo rate and the MSF rate 25 basis points above the repo rate.¹¹
- (iv) The daily fixed rate repo and four 14-day term repos conducted every fortnight earlier, have been withdrawn. The Reserve Bank, however, would ensure adequate provision/absorption of liquidity as warranted by underlying and evolving market conditions – unrestricted by quantitative ceilings – at or around the policy rate.
- (v) Instruments of liquidity management continue to include fixed and variable rate repo/reverse repo auctions, outright open market operations (OMOs), forex swaps and other instruments as may be deployed from time to time to ensure that the system has adequate liquidity at all times.
- (vi) A 14-day term repo/reverse repo operation at a variable rate and conducted to coincide with the cash reserve ratio (CRR) maintenance cycle is the main liquidity management tool for managing frictional liquidity requirements.
- (vii) The main liquidity operation would be supported by fine-tuning operations, overnight and/or longer tenor, to tide over any unanticipated liquidity changes during the reserve maintenance period.
- (viii) In addition, the RBI will conduct, if needed, longer-term variable rate repo/reverse repo operations of more than 14 days.
- (ix) The current requirement of maintaining a minimum of 90 per cent of the prescribed CRR on a daily basis will continue.¹²
- (x) Standalone Primary Dealers (SPDs) were allowed to participate directly in all overnight liquidity management operations.
- (xi) The margin requirements under the Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF) would be reviewed on a periodic basis; the margin requirement for reverse repo transactions, however, would continue to be 'Nil'.

¹¹ The corridor width was asymmetrically widened on March 27, 2020 (see Box IV.3 for details).

¹² The requirement of minimum daily CRR balance was reduced to 80 per cent on March 27, 2020 (see Box IV.3 for details).

(contd.)

(xii) In order to improve communication on the RBI's liquidity management framework and procedures, the following measures were introduced: (a) the Press Release detailing Money Market Operations (MMO) was modified suitably to show both the daily flow impact as well as the stock impact of the RBI's liquidity operations; (b) the Reserve Bank started publishing a quantitative assessment of durable

liquidity conditions of the banking system on a fortnightly basis with a lag of one fortnight; and (c) periodic consultations will be conducted with market participants and other stakeholders.

Reference:

Reserve Bank of India (2019), "Report of the Internal Working Group to Review the Liquidity Management Framework", September 26.

account of (i) the Reserve Bank's forex operations; and (ii) higher spending by the government, including recourse to WMA and OD. In order to mop up the increasing surplus liquidity, the Reserve Bank conducted variable rate reverse repo auctions of various tenors (ranging from overnight to 63 days including the main 14-day term reverse repo auction conducted on reporting Fridays since February 14, 2020) amounting to ₹1,96,02,726 crore in H2. Moreover, five LTROs were conducted during February and March with a view to ensuring monetary transmission. Furthermore, one targeted long term repo operation (TLTRO) was conducted in March to address the COVID-19 induced pressure on financial conditions.

In view of the COVID-19 pandemic and its adverse impact on global and domestic financial markets, the MPC advanced its meeting in an unprecedented move, after a careful evaluation of the current and evolving macroeconomic and financial conditions, and the outlook. The MPC voted for an unprecedented 75 bps reduction in the policy repo rate and for continuing with the accommodative stance as long as necessary to revive growth and mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on the economy, while ensuring that inflation remains within the target. Alongside, several measures were also announced on March 27, 2020 to address the stress in financial conditions and ease COVID-19 related liquidity constraints (Box IV.3).

Box IV.3: Liquidity Measures to Combat Adverse Impact of COVID-19

(I) Targeted Long-Term Repo Operations (TLTROs)

Reserve Bank to conduct auctions of targeted long-term repos of up to three years tenor of appropriate sizes for a total amount of up to ₹1,00,000 crore at a floating rate linked to the policy repo rate. Liquidity availed by banks under TLTROs should be deployed in investment grade corporate bonds, commercial paper, and non-convertible debentures over and above the outstanding level of their investments in these bonds as on March 27, 2020.

(II) Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)

(i) CRR requirement of banks was reduced by 100 bps from 4.0 per cent of NDTL to 3.0 per cent effective fortnight beginning March 28, 2020, which would augment primary liquidity in the banking system by about ₹1,37,000 crore. This dispensation will be available for a period of one year ending March 26, 2021.

(ii) The minimum daily CRR balance requirement was reduced from 90 per cent to 80 per cent effective from the first day of the fortnight beginning March 28, 2020. This dispensation will be available up to June 26, 2020.

(III) Marginal Standing Facility (MSF)

In view of the exceptionally high volatility in domestic financial markets and to provide comfort to the banking system, banks' limit for borrowing overnight under the MSF by dipping into their Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) was raised to 3 per cent of NDTL from 2 per cent. This measure will allow the banking system to avail an additional ₹1,37,000 crore of liquidity under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) window at the reduced MSF rate of 4.65 per cent and will be applicable up to June 30, 2020.

(contd.)

(IV) Reduction in Policy Rate and Widening of the Policy Corridor

- (i) The policy repo rate under the LAF was reduced by 75 basis points to 4.40 per cent from 5.15 per cent with immediate effect. Accordingly, the MSF rate and the Bank Rate were reduced to 4.65 per cent from 5.40 per cent.
- (ii) In view of persistent excess liquidity, the existing LAF corridor was widened asymmetrically to 65 bps from 50 bps. Accordingly, the reverse repo rate was reduced by 90 bps from 4.90 per cent to 4.00 per

cent. The purpose of this measure was to make it relatively unattractive for banks to passively deposit funds with the RBI; instead, these funds should be deployed for on-lending to productive sectors of the economy.

- (iii) Thus, the reverse repo rate is now 40 bps lower than the policy repo rate while the MSF rate continues to be 25 bps above the policy repo rate.

Reference:

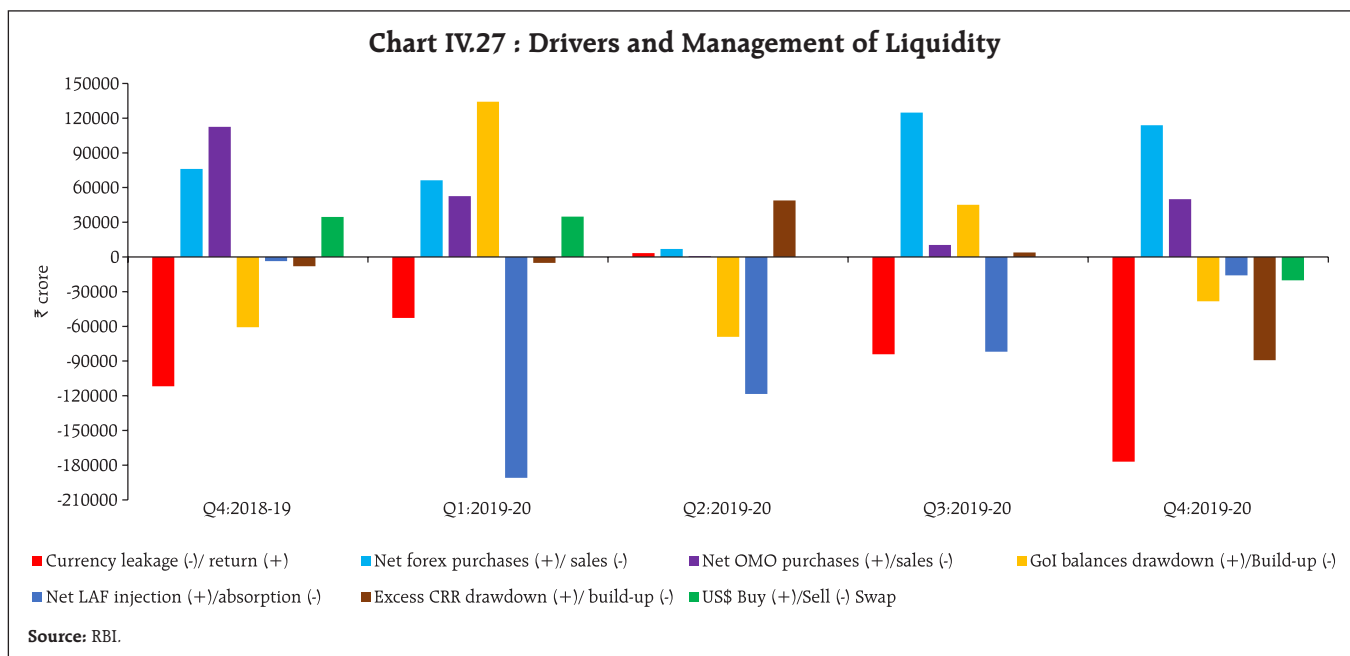
Reserve Bank of India (2020), "Statement on Developmental and Regulatory Policies", March 27.

Drivers and Management of Liquidity

The leakage of currency from the system during H2:2019-20 was more than offset by Reserve Bank's forex operations and drawdown of government cash balances, thereby augmenting liquidity in the banking system (Chart IV.27). The surplus liquidity was absorbed through reverse repo operations under the LAF. The increase in currency in circulation (CiC) of ₹2.61 lakh crore in H2 was more than five-fold than that of ₹49,378 crore in H1:2019-20 and higher than ₹2.11 lakh crore in H2:2018-19. As a result, growth in CiC at 11.9 per cent during H2:2019-20 was higher

than 11.0 per cent during the corresponding period of 2018-19.

Surplus liquidity conditions persisted in Q3:2019-20 as daily net liquidity absorption under the LAF progressively increased from ₹1.99 lakh crore in October to ₹2.41 lakh crore in November and further to ₹2.61 lakh crore in December 2019. Expecting the continuance of surplus liquidity, the Reserve Bank conducted four longer term reverse repo auctions in November – two of 21-days and one each of 42-days and 35-days tenor – thereby absorbing ₹78,934 crore. During Q3, the Reserve Bank's forex operations

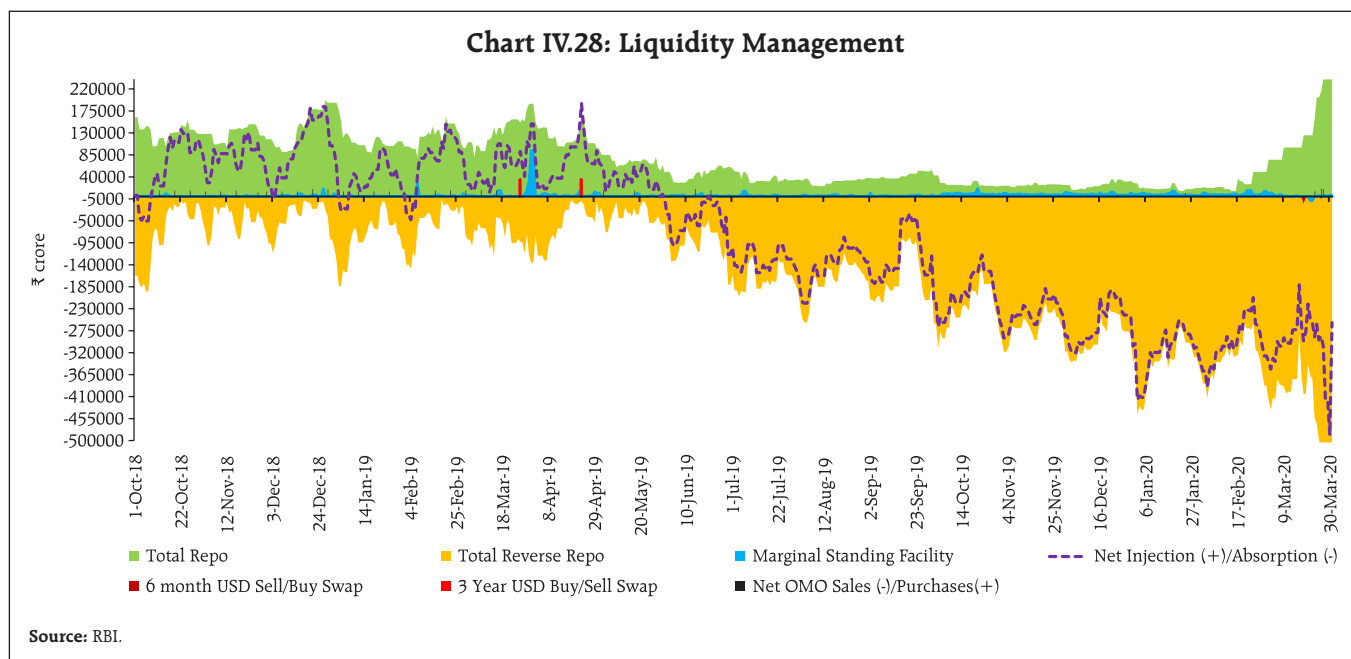


(₹1.25 lakh crore) and drawdown of GoI cash balances (₹45,184 crore) augmented systemic liquidity. The Reserve Bank also conducted four special OMOs during December and January (December 23 and 30, 2019 and January 6 and 23, 2020), which augmented net banking system liquidity by ₹11,724 crore.¹³

In Q4, average daily surplus liquidity further increased to ₹3.18 lakh crore in January as the Government continued to avail WMA/OD for the entire month, but moderated to ₹2.98 lakh crore in February as GoI's cash balance turned positive in the second half of the month, due to issuance of CMBs as discussed earlier (see IV.1.2 for details). In March, average daily net absorption under the LAF amounted to ₹3.02 lakh crore. Taking into consideration the increased demand for US dollars amidst flight to safety triggered by extremely volatile global financial markets, the Reserve Bank conducted two 6-month US Dollar/INR sell/buy swap auction on March 16 and March 23, 2020, which cumulatively provided dollar

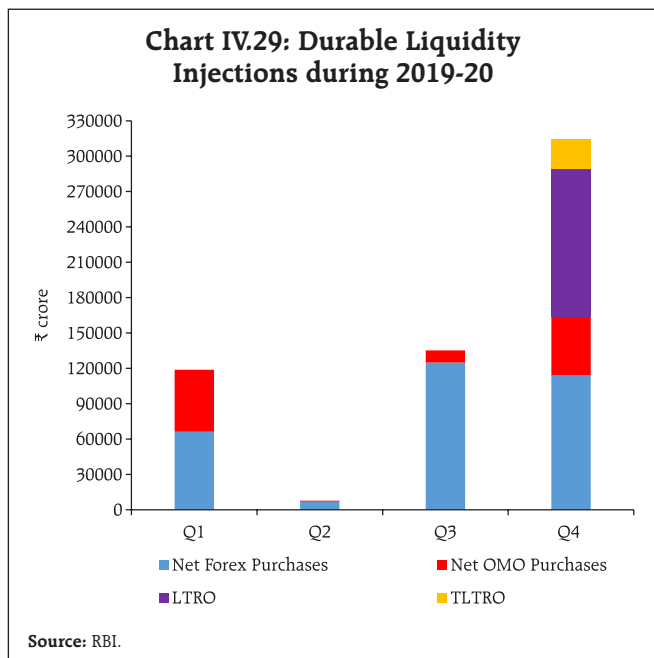
liquidity of USD 2.71 billion (Chart IV.28). Furthermore, in view of hardening yields and widening spreads in certain market segments symptomatic of stressed financial conditions (see Chart IV.12), three open market purchase operations were conducted on March 20, 24 and 26, 2020, thereby injecting ₹40,000 crore cumulatively.

With a view to reinforcing monetary transmission and augmenting credit flows to productive sectors, the Reserve Bank conducted five long term repo operations (LTRO) at fixed repo rate (one of one-year and four of three-year tenors) between February 17 and March 18, 2020, which infused durable liquidity amounting to ₹1.25 lakh crore into the system with additional ₹75,000 crore in the pipeline. The LTROs provided banks with durable liquidity at reasonable cost (fixed repo rate) relative to prevailing market rates. Moreover, a TLTRO auction of 3-year maturity held on March 27, 2020 also augmented durable liquidity by ₹25,009 crore.¹⁴ Thus, total durable



¹³ While long-term paper amounting to ₹40,000 crore was purchased through these auctions, sale of short-term securities amounted to ₹28,276 crore.

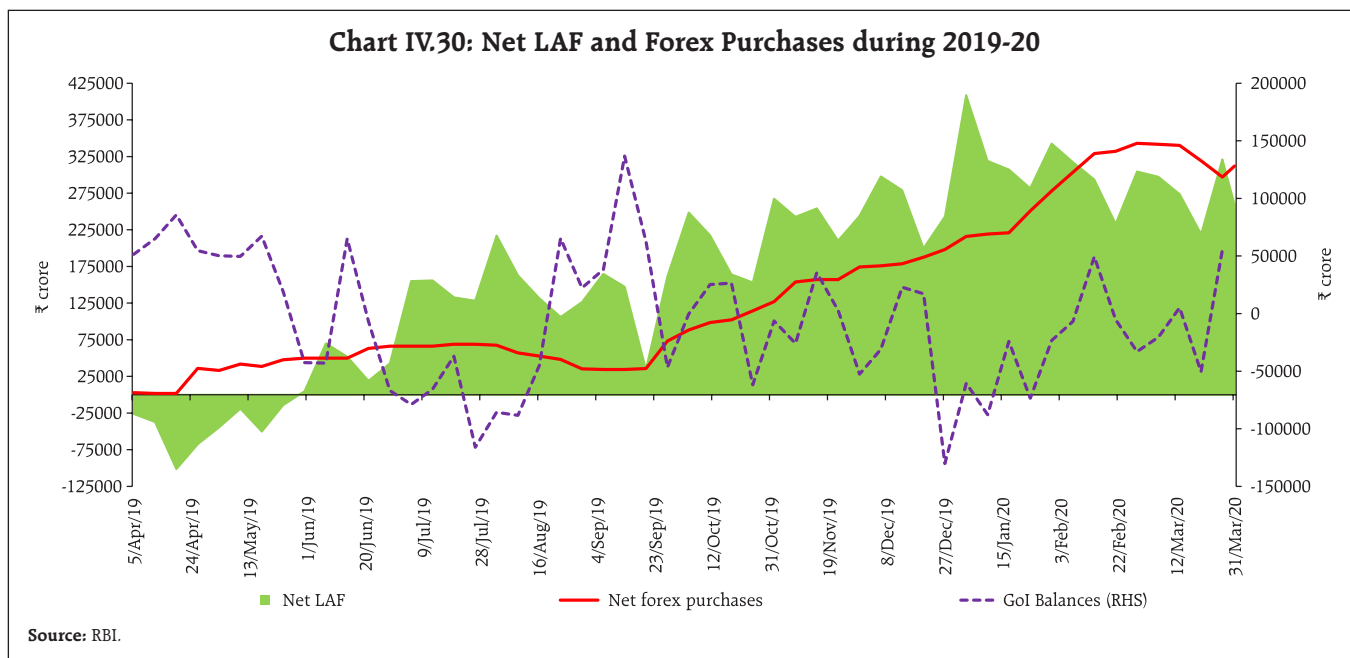
¹⁴ Two more TLTRO auctions of 3-year maturity were conducted on April 3 and April 9, respectively, which cumulatively augmented durable liquidity by ₹50,032 crore.



liquidity (including forex purchases, OMOs, LTROs and TLTRO) amounting to ₹4,49,326 crore was injected in H2:2019-20 as compared with ₹1,26,514 crore in H1 (Chart IV.29).

Summing up, currency expansion, Reserve Bank’s forex operations and government spending were the key liquidity drivers in the banking system during H2:2019-20 (Chart IV.30).

Given surplus liquidity conditions, fine-tuning operations through variable rate reverse repo auctions with maturity ranging from overnight to 3 days were extensively used for absorbing liquidity till February 14, 2020. As a pre-emptive measure to tide over any frictional liquidity requirements caused by dislocations due to COVID-19, two fine-tuning variable rate repo auctions of 16-day maturity were conducted on March 23 and March 24, 2020 injecting ₹77,745 crore cumulatively (Table IV.7). To address any additional demand for liquidity and provide flexibility to the banking system in its liquidity management towards the year-end, one fine-tuning variable rate repo auction of 12-days maturity was conducted on March 26 injecting ₹11,772 crore.¹⁵ As a special case, SPDs were allowed to participate in these auctions along with other eligible participants.



¹⁵ Two other fine-tuning operations through variable rate repo auctions were held – for ₹ 25,000 crore each of 7-days and 3-days maturity on March 13 and March 31, respectively – which did not elicit any response from the market.

Table IV.7: Fine-tuning Operations through Variable Rate Auctions in H2:2019-20

	Repo	Reverse Repo							
	12, 16	1-3	4	21	28-29	31	35	42	63
Maturity in Days	12, 16	1-3	4	21	28-29	31	35	42	63
Number of Operations	3	90	2	2	3	1	1	2	3
Total Volume (₹ crore)	89,517	1,85,67,948	3,21,328	28,923	47,165	12,790	25,004	30,507	65,033
Average Volume (₹ crore)	29,839	2,06,311	1,60,664	14,462	15,722	12,790	25,004	15,254	21,678

Source: RBI.

IV.4 Conclusion

Domestic financial markets remain vulnerable to global developments, deepening of the growth slowdown in India and rising concerns about COVID-19. Despite the weak domestic growth outlook, Indian equity markets scaled new highs, before turning highly volatile in early-March in tandem with global equity markets. The outlook is characterised by heightened uncertainty with capital outflows continuing and exerting pressures on the INR. This outlook is uncertain and is increasingly

getting reflected in bond market yields. Credit growth is likely to remain modest, reflecting weak demand and risk aversion. Going forward, liquidity conditions would be managed under the revised liquidity management framework, consistent with the accommodative stance of monetary policy as long as necessary to revive growth and mitigate the impact of COVID-19, while ensuring that inflation remains within the target. Better transmission of monetary policy impulses to the credit market would remain a priority.

V. External Environment

Economic activity remained subdued across major advanced economies (AEs) and emerging market economies (EMEs). Though some transitory signs of stabilisation were evident in early 2020, the outbreak of COVID-19 and its rapid spread over a large number of countries has clouded the near-term outlook. Monetary policy has remained highly accommodative as most central banks across the world resorted to massive easing through both conventional and unconventional measures. Global financial markets, which remained buoyant on risk-on sentiments in Q4:2019, slumped on sell-off pressures triggered by intensifying COVID-19 disruptions.

Global economic activity remained subdued during the major part of H2:2019. In January 2020, the IMF estimated global GDP growth at 2.9 per cent for 2019, the lowest since the global financial crisis (GFC). Early into 2020, signs of stabilisation seemed to appear in the form of de-escalating trade tensions between the US and China and receding possibility of a hard Brexit. A pneumonia of unknown cause detected in Wuhan, China first reported to the World Health Organization (WHO) on December 31, 2019 delivered a cataclysmic shock to these green shoots and changed the world. The WHO declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on January 30, 2020 and christened the novel coronavirus as COVID-19 on February 11, 2020. On March 11, 2020, the WHO declared it a pandemic – “the first pandemic caused by a corona virus”¹. At the time of going to press, more than 12 lakh people were infected around the world with more than 67,000 deaths². In the G-20

¹ Opening remarks of WHO Director-General, Media Briefing, March 11, 2020.

² World Health Organization.

Ministerial Call on the Coronavirus Emergency on March 23, 2020 the Managing Director, IMF formally informed that the global economy had entered into recession in 2020.

Amongst the early incoming data, GDP of Singapore shrank by 10.6 per cent in Q1:2020. In the US, jobless claims surged to a peak as the number of people filling for unemployment insurance claims jumped to 6.6 million in the week ended March 28, 2020, the highest since the series began in 1967. Crude oil prices plummeted in March due to price war between Saudi Arabia and Russia over disagreement on production cuts. Prices of other global commodities ebbed on fears of weakening global demand. Prices of precious metals initially rallied on safe haven demand as investors resorted to flight to safety, but they declined in the second week of March as investors preferred to hold cash. Central banks across major advanced economies (AEs) and emerging market economies (EMEs) switched to highly accommodative mode, with most of them resorting to rate cuts in unscheduled meetings. Central banks also announced several liquidity measures and regulatory relaxations in the face of tightening financial conditions. Fiscal authorities across the world have launched stimuli in the range of 0.8-16.0 per cent of their GDP. Besides direct support, measures also include tax deferment and credit guarantee.

V.1 Global Economic Conditions

In the US, GDP grew by 2.1 per cent in Q4:2019 – the same pace as in the previous quarter. Overall GDP growth for 2019 decelerated to its slowest pace in three years amidst continuing weakness in business investment and exports (Table V.1). In Q1:2020, industrial production growth stalled in February after contracting for the fifth consecutive month in January and the manufacturing purchasing managers' index (PMI) of the Institute for Supply Management (ISM)

Table V.1: Real GDP Growth (q-o-q, annualised)

(Per cent)

Country	Q4-2018	Q1-2019	Q2-2019	Q3-2019	Q4-2019	2020 (P)	2021 (P)
Advanced Economies							
Canada	1.0	1.0	3.4	1.1	0.3	1.8	1.8
Euro area	1.2	1.6	0.8	1.2	0.4	1.3	1.4
Japan	2.4	2.2	2.3	0.1	-7.1	0.7	0.5
South Korea	3.6	-1.6	4.0	1.6	5.2	2.2	2.7
UK	0.8	2.4	-0.4	2.0	0.0	1.4	1.5
US	1.1	3.1	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.0	1.7
Emerging Market Economies							
Brazil	0.0	0.0	2.0	2.4	2.0	2.2	2.3
China*	6.5	6.4	6.2	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.8
Indonesia*	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.1
Russia*	2.7	0.5	0.9	1.7	2.1	1.9	2.0
South Africa	1.4	-3.2	3.3	-0.8	-1.4	0.8	1.0
Thailand	5.2	3.2	1.4	0.6	1.0	3.0	3.5
Memo:	2019 (E)		2020 (P)			2021 (P)	
World Output	2.9		3.3			3.4	
World Trade Volume	1.0		2.9			3.7	

E: Estimate P: Projection *: y-o-y growth

Sources: Bloomberg; and International Monetary Fund.

contracted in March after improving marginally in January-February. Retail sales have also softened since January. Although labour market remained strong in February as reflected in better than expected US jobs report, number of people filling jobless claims in the US for the week ended March 28 rose to a record level of 6.6 million – the highest since the series began in 1967.

Economic activity in the Euro area decelerated markedly in Q4:2019 as a pronounced downturn in industrial activity and subdued consumer demand weighed on overall economic performance. GDP growth contracted in France and Italy in Q4:2019 on waning consumer confidence, and stagnated in Germany on muted private and government spending. In Q1:2020, the rapid spread of COVID-19 infections in Italy, Spain and other European countries is likely

to impact manufacturing and services sectors. The ECB has projected GDP growth to decline to 0.8 per cent for 2020 under its baseline scenario assumption that the impact of virus would get contained in next few months and growth would normalise in H2:2020.

The Japanese economy contracted sharply in Q4 as private consumption slumped in the wake of October's sales tax hike. The slowdown in factory activity due to a string of typhoons and sluggish external demand added further pressure on domestic activity. In Q1:2020, the increased number of infections, including across the East Asian regions, threaten to disrupt economic activity severely.

In the UK, GDP growth stagnated in Q4, after rebounding in Q3. Positive contributions from the services and construction sectors were offset by a decline in manufacturing output. Political uncertainty due to the Brexit deadline in October and general election in December appeared to have slowed activity in the final quarter. In Q1:2020, industrial production contracted and retail sales remained subdued. Risks emanating from COVID-19 may undermine the outlook for Q1.

Sluggish growth across major EMEs in Q4:2019 was overwhelmed by the outbreak of COVID-19; suddenly, the downside risks to growth became acute (Box V.1).

The Chinese economy had managed to maintain the pace of GDP growth in Q4:2019 at the momentum secured in Q3 only to be overtaken in Q1:2020 by COVID-19. Caixin's manufacturing PMI plunged to 40.3 in February – the lowest since the survey began in April 2004 – with new orders and employment falling the most on enforced shutdowns in many regions. However, it rebounded in March to 50.1 suggesting slight expansion in manufacturing activity as output improved marginally relative to February's

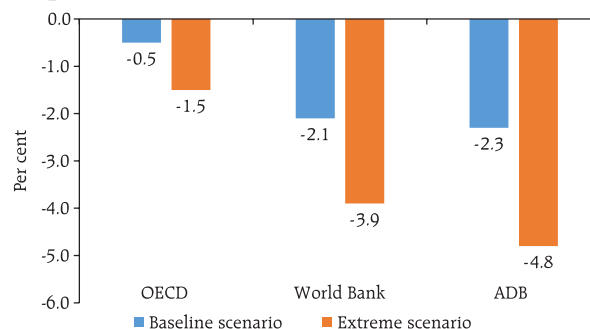
Box V.1: Impact of COVID-19 on Global Growth

In the initial weeks of February, most forecasts of global output loss due to COVID-19 were in terms of the outbreak being confined to China and being brought under control by March/June. It was, however, acknowledged that even in the limited scenario, the economic impact would be significant as China is a much larger player – both in terms of economic size and its role in global value chains – now than in 2003, the period of the SARS epidemic (Chart V.1.1).

Owing to extended lunar new year holidays as also government-imposed factory shutdowns and travel restrictions in a number of regions, China's manufacturing/services activity declined sharply in February. In the latter part of February, a rapid surge of infections and fatalities around the world began to surface, even as the spread of the virus in China began to plateau. Lockdowns were/have been imposed in most countries. Travel bans have created distress for airlines, tourism and hospitality industries.

In the commodity and financial markets, crude oil prices have been on a downward spiral; with West Texas intermediate (WTI) crude prices crashing below US\$ 20 per barrel on March 30, 2020. Equity markets have suffered

Chart V.1.2: Multilateral Institutions' Estimate of Impact on Global Growth in 2020 due to COVID-19



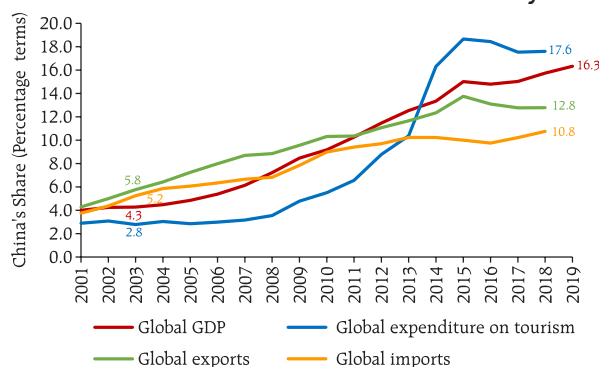
Notes: 1. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) estimates of March considered baseline scenario of COVID-19 peaking in China in Q1:2020 and limited spread to other regions. Extreme scenario considered a longer-lasting and more intensive COVID-19 outbreak spreading to most regions. The estimated impact is in terms of percentage point of global GDP growth.

2. World Bank estimates of April considered baseline scenario of a global pandemic and extreme scenario of extreme global pandemic. The estimated impact is in terms of per cent deviation from the benchmark from Envisage model.

3. Asian Development Bank (ADB) estimates of April considered baseline scenario of shorter containment and smaller demand shocks; and an extreme scenario of longer containment and larger demand shocks. The estimated impact is in terms of per cent of GDP.

Sources: OECD; World Bank; and ADB.

Chart V.1.1: China in the Global Economy



Sources: World Bank; IMF; WTO; and RBI staff estimates.

major losses, while gold, fixed income assets – mainly government debt, and the US dollar gained ground due to safe haven demand, but later corrected significantly on profit-booking and flight to cash (refer to Chart V.4, and Charts V.6-8).

With the pandemic still looming, the estimates of the downward drag on global growth are being continuously revised. The consensus, however, is that there will be a recession in 2020 (Chart V.1.2).

Multilateral institutions, governments and central banks are taking swift action to tackle the pandemic and its consequences (Table V.1.1.)

Table V.1.1: Key Measures³ by Select Central Banks in Response to COVID-19 Outbreak

Central Bank	Measures
People's Bank of China	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.7 trillion yuan of liquidity injected on February 3 and 4 • Rate on 200 billion yuan worth of one-year medium-term lending facility loans to financial institutions lowered by 10 bps to 3.15 per cent on February 17 • 1-year Loan Prime Rate lowered by 10 bps to 4.05 per cent effective February 20, 2020; 5-year LPR lowered by 5 bps to 4.75 per cent • Reduction in reserve requirement ratio for select banks • 7-day reverse repo rate lowered by 20 bps to 2.2 per cent on March 30

(contd.)

³ Up to March 31, 2020.

Central Bank	Measures
Federal Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target range of the federal funds rate lowered by 50 bps on March 3 and a further 100 bps on March 16 to 0-0.25 per cent • Unlimited asset purchases, commercial mortgage-backed securities included in the asset purchase programme • Lowering of primary credit rate to 0.25 per cent • Banks allowed to use capital and liquidity buffers for lending • Reserve requirement reduced to 0 per cent from March 26 • Additional repo operations • Primary Dealer Credit Facility established • Commercial Paper Funding Facility established • Money Market Mutual Fund Liquidity Facility established • Term Asset-Backed Securities Loan Facility established • Primary Market Corporate Credit Facility and the Secondary Market Corporate Credit Facility established to support credit to large employers • The existing dollar liquidity swap line arrangements with five central banks (EU, UK, Japan, Canada and Switzerland) made lower cost, with more frequent and longer-term operations • Temporary swap lines with central banks of Australia, Brazil, Denmark, South Korea, Mexico, Norway, New Zealand, Singapore and Sweden established • Temporary repurchase agreement facility for foreign and international monetary authorities (FIMA Repo Facility) established to help support the smooth functioning of financial markets, including the US Treasury market
European Central Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional longer-term refinancing operations (LTROs) to provide immediate liquidity support to the euro area financial system till June 2020 • More favourable terms under TLTRO III from June 2020 to June 2021, to support bank lending to those affected most by the spread of COVID-19 • Additional net asset purchases of €120 billion until end 2020 • Banks allowed to use capital and liquidity buffers, including Pillar 2 Guidance • €750 billion Pandemic Emergency Purchase Programme (PEPP) to be conducted until end-2020 in a flexible manner, to include purchase of Greek government debt • Non-financial commercial paper included in asset purchases • Collateral standards eased for ECB's refinancing operations
Bank of England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bank Rate reduced in two steps of 50 bps and 15 bps to all-time low of 0.1 per cent on March 19 • Additional purchases of £200 billion to be done in 2020 • A new Term Funding Scheme with additional incentives for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises introduced • Counter-cyclical capital buffer rate reduced to 0 per cent of banks' exposures to UK borrowers effective March 11. • Supervisory guidance on dividends and other distributions issued • Other supervisory and prudential policy measures including cancellation of annual stress test of banks in 2020 • Covid Corporate Financing Facility launched, in association with the Government • Contingent Term Repo Facility activated
Bank of Japan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide loans against corporate debt as collateral at 0 per cent with maturity up to one year • Additional 2 trillion yen purchases of commercial paper and corporate bonds • Double the annual pace of purchases of exchange traded funds and J-REITs
Bank of Korea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Base Rate lowered by 50 bps to 0.75 per cent on March 17 • Interest rate on the Bank Intermediated Lending Support Facility reduced to 0.25 per cent and the ceiling on the facility increased by 5 trillion won • Collateral for open market operations broadened • Unlimited liquidity through weekly 91-day repo auctions • Forex market stability rules eased
Bank Indonesia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy rate lowered by 25 bps each in February and March to 4.5 per cent effective March 19, 2020 • Daily repo auctions of 12-month tenor introduced • Frequency of forex swap auctions increased • Triple intervention policy intensified to minimize the risk of increasing rupiah exchange rate volatility • Forex reserve requirement for commercial banks halved to 4 per cent effective March 16, 2020 • Rupiah reserve requirement lowered by 50 bps for banks financing export-import activity, MSMEs and other priority sectors effective April 1, 2020 • Range of underlying transactions available to foreign investors expanded to provide alternative hedging instruments against rupiah holdings

(contd.)

Central Bank	Measures
Reserve Bank of Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash rate target reduced in two steps of 25 bps each to a further all-time low of 0.25 per cent with effect from March 20 • Target set for the yield on 3-year government bonds of around 0.25 per cent, to be achieved through secondary market purchases • Term funding facility for the banking system, with particular support for credit to small and medium-sized businesses instituted • Exchange settlement balances to be remunerated at 10 bps
Bank of Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced key rate in three steps of 50 bps each to 0.25 per cent in March • Announced purchase of government securities, minimum purchase of \$5 billion per week • Bankers' Acceptance Purchase Facility launched • Provincial Money Market Purchase announced • Standing Term Liquidity Facility established • Commercial Paper Purchase Program launched

Sources: Websites of central banks; and www.centralbanking.com

The key existential question is: Will the worldwide effort contain the mortality and morbidity as also the macroeconomic consequences of COVID-19?

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IMF (2020), <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2020/03/23/pr2098-imf-managing-director-statement-following-a-g20-ministerial-call-on-the-coronavirus-emergency>.

OECD (2020), "Coronavirus: The World Economy at Risk", *Interim Economic Assessment*, March 2.

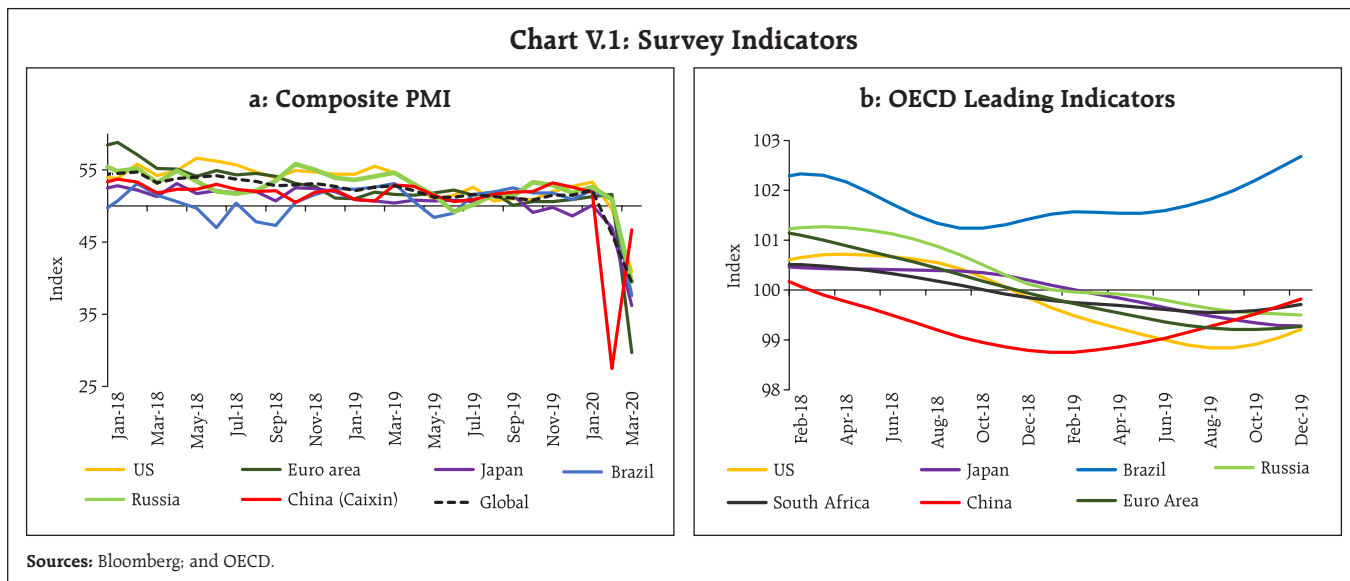
World Bank (2020), "East Asia and Pacific in the Time of COVID-19", *East Asia and Pacific Economic Update*, April.

disruptions. Industrial production contracted sharply to its lowest level in 30 years and retail sales registered its first ever decline in January-February 2020. The imposition of shipping restrictions and order cancellations as part of virus containment measures weighed heavily on exports and supply chains. Wide-ranging policy support – both fiscal and monetary and health services – is expected to mitigate the slowdown in the second half of 2020.

Among the other BRICS countries, economic activity in Russia was sustained in H2:2019 as reflected in improved retail sales, tight labour markets and falling inflation. Increased government spending on national projects and lower interest rates appeared to have supported activity in Q4:2019. Incoming data for Q1:2020 suggest that the economy has maintained the pace so far as retail sales have been increasing since January, while industrial production improved in February after a moderation in January. However, a

sharp fall in crude oil prices due to the tensions with Saudi Arabia poses a large downside risk. The Brazilian economy ended the year on a relatively weak note due to a fall in construction and mining activity and private consumption. During Q1:2020, incoming data point to a slowdown in both industrial production and retail sales, while deteriorating external sector dynamics on increasing COVID-19 uncertainty is further expected to pull down the growth, going ahead. The South African economy entered a technical recession in Q4 – second time in two years – as agriculture, transport and construction activities declined sharply amidst frequent power outages. Moreover, falling export growth due to supply constraints, and weak fixed investment and government spending added further downward pressures.

In Indonesia, economic activity maintained momentum: GDP growth in Q4:2019 was at the same pace as in Q3. Positive contribution from the external



sector due to falling imports was offset by weak fixed investment and household consumption. While strong infrastructure spending and accommodative monetary policy are expected to provide a boost to economic activity, downside risks emerging from the pandemic may impact the momentum, going ahead. In Thailand, GDP growth in Q4 registered a five-year low in y-o-y terms, pulled down by weak domestic and external demand, delay in the government budget and drought. The growth outlook for Q1 remains bleak as tourism is adversely impacted by COVID-19.

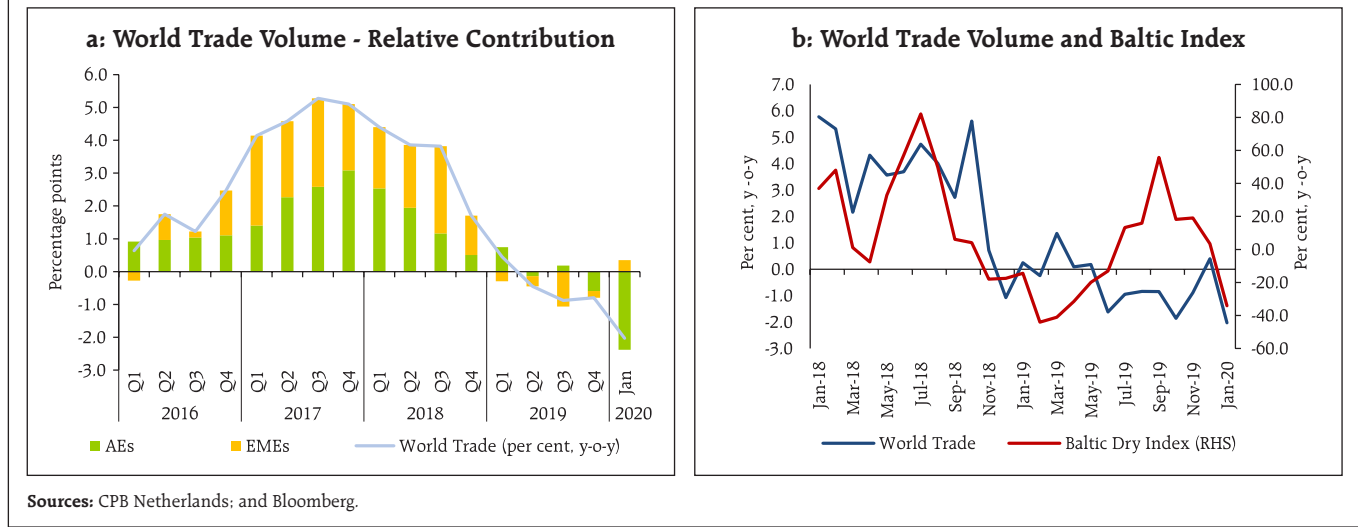
The global composite PMI plunged in February-March, reversing the uptrend that occurred between October 2019 and January 2020. The index reached a ten-month high in January as output, new orders and employment rose faster on the back of strong business optimism. However, it fell sharply since February, even falling to 133-month low level of 39.4 in March, as both manufacturing and services activity declined considerably amidst disruptions

caused by COVID-19 (Chart V.1a). Among the major OECD economies, composite leading indicators (CLIs) – available till December – suggested a firming up of growth momentum across major AEs and EMEs in the final months of 2019 (Chart V.1b).

The slowdown in global trade got entrenched in H2:2019 as the mild recovery in trade volume of AEs during Q3:2019 turned out to be short-lived, with contraction setting in again in Q4:2019. EMEs dragged down global trade in all four quarters of 2019 (Chart V.2a).

Forward-looking indicators suggest that world trade growth is likely to remain weak in Q1:2020 due to supply and demand disruptions caused by COVID-19. The WTO's Goods Trade Barometer remained below trend, pulled down by contraction in constituent indices pertaining to agricultural raw materials and container shipping. The Baltic Dry Index, which measures the shipping costs for a wide variety of bulk commodities such as coal, iron ore and grain, continues to show weakness (Chart V.2b).

Chart V.2: World Trade Volume



V.2 Commodity Prices and Inflation

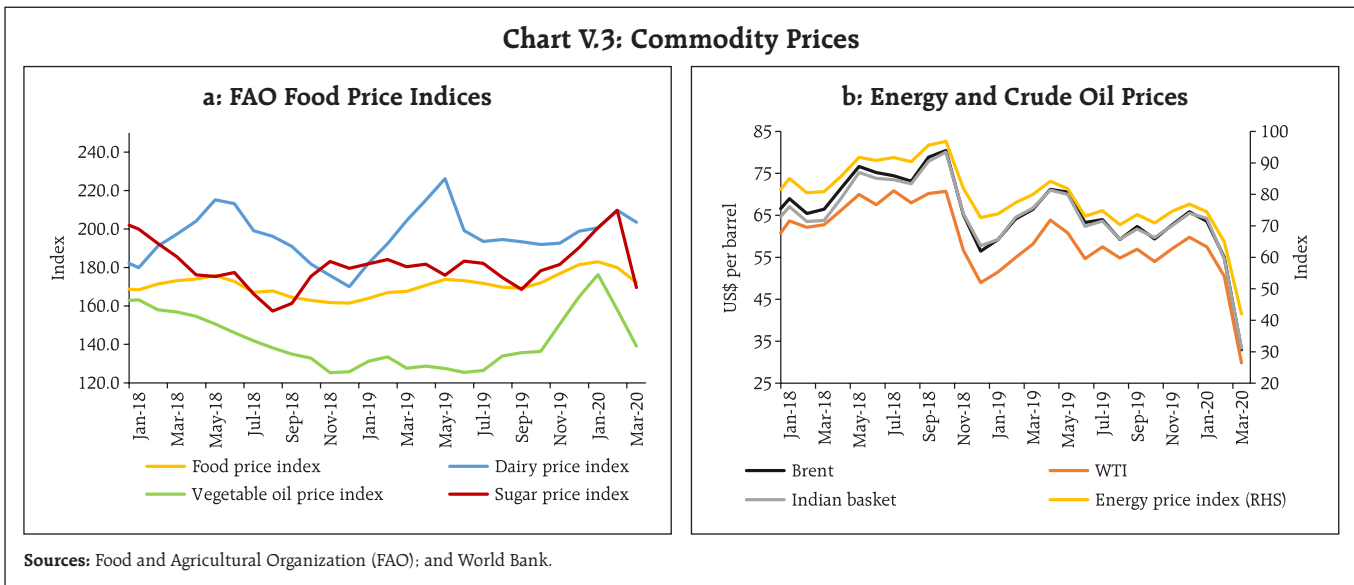
Global commodity prices remained largely supported in Q4:2019 as uncertainty related to trade eased and the US dollar weakened. However, global headwinds relating to US-Iran conflict in early January followed by the outbreak of COVID-19 exerted downward pressures. The Bloomberg commodity price index declined by 20.5 per cent between October 2019 and March 2020.

On the contrary, the food price index of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) increased by 1.8 per cent between October 2019 and March 2020. Global food prices firmed up beginning October 2019 to a five-year high in December and continued to firm up in January 2020 on the back of rising vegetable oil, sugar and dairy products prices amidst robust demand and expectations of tightening world supplies. The food price index slid in February on a sharp fall in the price of vegetable oil, which subsequently softened on excess supply from Malaysia and fear of global demand slowdown. Sugar and dairy prices have risen on tightening of export supplies from major producers and robust demand. In March, the index fell further, primarily on sharp fall in vegetable oil and sugar

prices, led by demand contractions amidst COVID-19 pandemic (Chart V.3a).

Crude oil prices remained largely supported in Q4:2019 on extended production cuts by OPEC *plus* before tumbling towards the end of January. A spike to US\$ 69 per barrel on January 6, 2020 followed escalation of US-Iran tensions, but a correction ensued as tensions eased. From end-January, oil prices came under intense downward pressure on fears of demand slowdown caused by COVID-19, plummeting by almost 30 per cent on March 9, 2020. Increased supplies by Saudi Arabia following failure to strike an agreement on production cuts with Russia, sparked fears of price war (Chart V.3b). On March 30, 2020, WTI crude prices slid below US\$ 20 per barrel as COVID-19 widened its vice-like grip on the world.

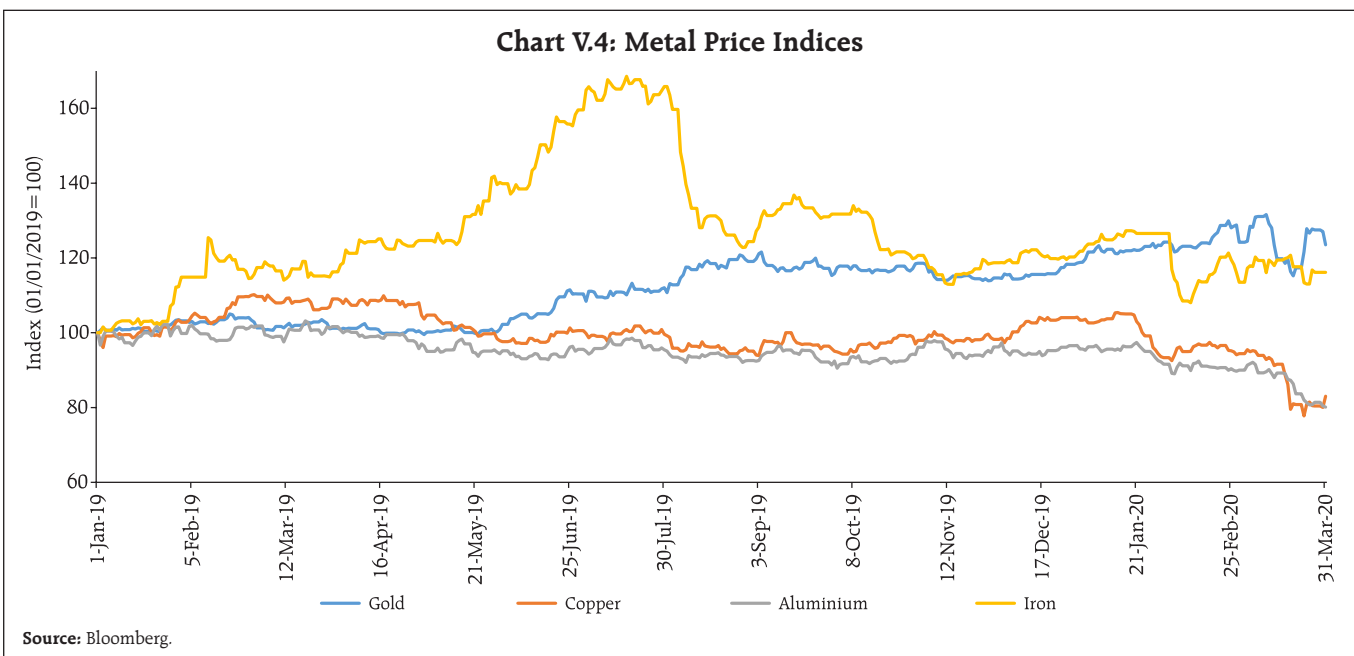
Base metal prices, measured by Bloomberg's base metal index, fell by 17.9 per cent between October 2019 and March 2020 largely due to a demand slowdown. The firming of these prices during October-December on optimism over signing of the phase one trade deal between the US and China gave way to bearish sentiments from mid-January 2020. The spiralling of infected cases beyond Chinese borders and concerns



about the global downturn intensified deflationary pressures pushing metal prices down (Chart V.4).

Gold prices remained elevated in January-February, with prices rallying on safe haven demand amidst increased concerns over the global growth outlook (Box V.2). From mid-March, however, gold prices declined, falling below the US\$ 1500 per troy ounce mark, on large sell-offs as investors fled to cash to compensate losses in other markets amidst heightened volatility.

Inflation remained broadly contained in major AEs, but picked up in key EMEs on firming food prices. In the US, CPI inflation picked up modestly beginning October on rising prices of health services and food, though eased marginally in February on falling travel and fuel prices amidst COVID-19 disruptions. In terms of changes in the core personal consumption expenditure (PCE) deflator – the Fed’s preferred measure – inflation remained below the Fed’s 2 per cent target. In the Euro area too, inflation remained



Box V.2: What Drives Gold Prices?

As a financial asset, gold’s appeal typically rises in times of financial turmoil. Recently, growing concerns about a deep global slowdown due to COVID-19 boosted its safe haven demand. On year to date basis, gold prices shot up by 11 per cent (till March 09, 2020) on top of an 18 per cent increase in 2019 (Chart V.2.1a). Gold futures also traded higher (Chart V.2. 1b). Through 2019, risk-off sentiments kept the overall appetite for gold strong as also evident in high exchange traded fund inflows, large purchases by central banks and increased COMEX net long positions. This upside to gold prices extended into 2020 up to mid-March as extreme risk aversion caused by COVID-19 sparked off sustained gold sales as it too lost allure amid heightened volatility, and gave way to an overriding preference to hold cash. This pulled down gold prices by 12 per cent between March 9 and 19, 2020. However, with subsequent recovery towards the end of March 2020, gold prices increased by 3.9 per cent on year to date basis (up to March 31, 2020).

The empirical literature identifies a host of factors, viz., oil prices, global liquidity conditions, exchange rate, inflation, bond yields, stock prices and economic policy uncertainty as major drivers of gold prices. Investors consider gold as a tool for portfolio diversification, as it enables hedges

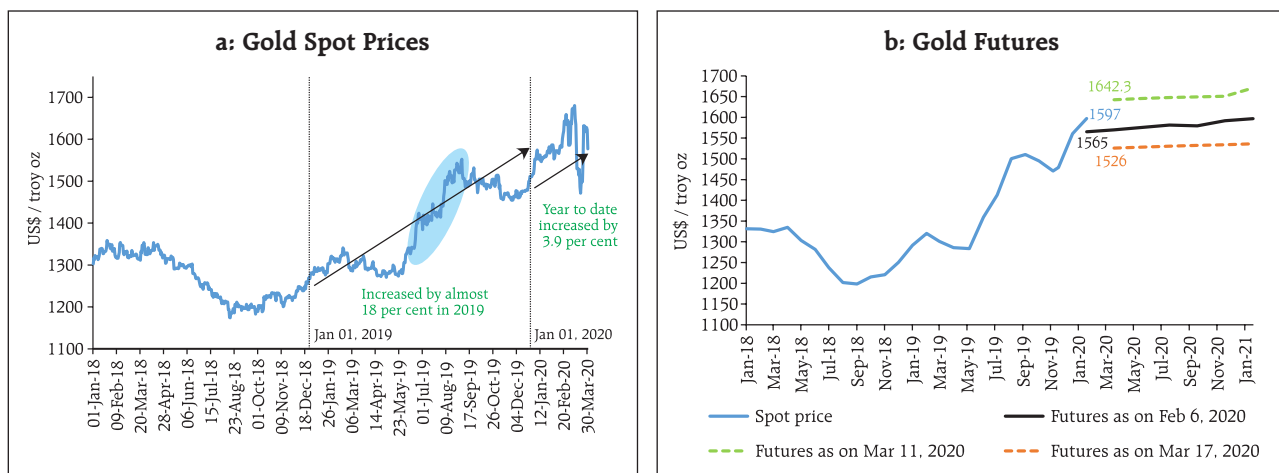
against price risks of other financial instruments, and as a safe haven in times of economic and financial turmoil (Levin *et al.*, 2006; Buar and Lucey, 2010; Emmrich and McGroarty, 2013; and Bilgin *et al.*, 2018).

The dynamics of gold prices are examined on a Johansen’s cointegration framework to estimate the long-run relationship. Gold prices (LGOLD), the US general price index (LCPIUS) and the US real exchange rate (LREERUS) are of one order of integration or I(1) and hence a long-run relationship between them could exist, as borne out by tests for cointegration. The estimated long-run equation is as follows:

$$LGOLD = -10.6 - 2.8 \log(LREERUS) + 1.7 LCPIUS \quad \dots(1)$$

Equation (1) is augmented with the error correction term to capture the short-run dynamics of gold prices, while controlling for exogenous factors, viz., global economic policy uncertainty (EPU) index⁴, flight to safety proxied by changes in the Standard and Poor’s Index of US equity markets (Δ LS&P) and changes in Brent spot prices (Δ LOIL). The empirical analysis used monthly data for the period spanning January 2005 to December 2019. All the data, barring LCPIUS, were sourced from Bloomberg. LCPIUS was sourced from the website of the Federal Reserve of St. Louis.

Chart V.2.1: Gold Price Movement



Sources: Bloomberg, and The World Bank.

(contd.)

⁴ Davis, Steven J. (2016), "An Index of Global Economic Policy Uncertainty," *Macroeconomic Review*, October.

The short-run equation was estimated by adjusting for ARCH effects, since the errors were found to be heteroscedastic. Time dummies (October 2008 and May 2006) representing the periods of excessive intra-month volatility in gold prices were included (Table V.1.1). The error correction term turned out to be statistically significant with the correct negative sign. This indicates the return of the gold price to its long-run relationship and that the estimated model is stable. $\Delta LREERUS$ was found to be significant at one lag with a negative sign. This suggests that a depreciation in the US dollar would make gold cheaper outside the US dollar area leading to higher demand for gold and increase in gold prices in US dollar terms. $\Delta LCPUS$ has negative relationship with gold prices

in the short-run, which implies that a higher inflation in the US could dampen the demand for gold and reduce its price. This could be attributed to a host of factors, *viz.*, central bank policies, investors' preference to hold cash ahead of a recession and uncertainty perturbing the long-run relationship. The other variables, *viz.*, economic and political uncertainty, stock index and crude oil prices had their expected signs and were statistically significant.

In sum, the empirical findings suggest that a rise in crude oil prices and a depreciation of the US dollar in the short-run lead to increase in gold prices. On the other hand, gold prices fall with a rise in equity prices. Gold prices also move in tandem with heightened economic policy uncertainty, thereby indicating the safe haven feature of the asset.

Table V.1.1: Short-run Estimates of Change in Gold Prices

	Coefficient	P-values
ECM	-0.071	0.00
$\sum_{i=1}^3 \Delta LGOLD$	-0.090	0.512
$\sum_{i=1}^3 \Delta LCPUS$	-3.13	0.004
$\sum_{i=1}^3 \Delta LREERUS$	-1.217	0.001
$\Delta LOIL$	0.124	0.001
$\Delta LS\&P$	-0.222	0.014
EPU	0.022	0.000

Notes: 1. Diagnostic tests based on correlogram of standardised residuals suggest no autocorrelation in residuals.

2. Correlogram of the standardised residual squares suggest no residual heteroscedasticity.

3. ARCH LM test p-value: 0.116

Source: RBI staff estimates.

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Bilgin, M. H., G. Gozgor, C. K. Lau and X. Sheng (2018), "The Effects of Uncertainty Measures on the Price of Gold", *International Review of Financial Analysis*, 58, pp.1-7. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.irfa.2018.03.009>

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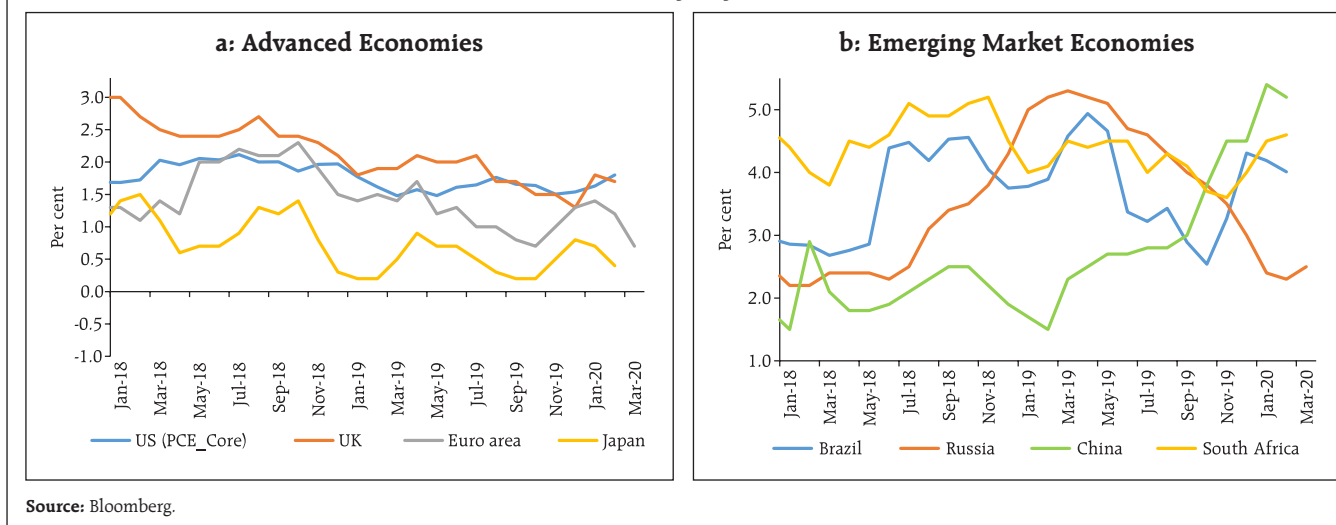
Levin, E. J., A. Montagnoli and R. E. Wright (2006), "Short-run and Long-run Determinants of the Price of Gold", *World Gold Council*, Research Study No 32. <http://strathprints.strath.ac.uk/7215/1/strathprints007215.pdf>.

below target. Although energy and food inflation firmed up, measures of underlying inflation remained generally muted. Moreover, CPI inflation eased further in March on sharp decline in energy prices. In Japan, CPI inflation remained at a low level and edged down further in February on soft food prices and declining fuel prices (Chart V.5a).

Inflation edged up across major EMEs, except Russia. China experienced persisting inflationary pressures on account of surging pork prices, which

got accentuated in January due to seasonal demand during the lunar new-year holiday. However, inflation moderated slightly in February on easing non-food prices. In Brazil, CPI inflation has been rising since November on the back of strong gains in food prices, especially meat and transport prices, although falling food and beverages prices provided some relief in February. In South Africa, inflation increased for the third consecutive month in February, primarily driven by a rise in prices of food, non-alcoholic beverages

Chart V.5: CPI Inflation (y-o-y) – Select Economies



and health services. CPI inflation eased in Russia, falling below the 4 per cent target from October 2019. Subdued external demand, falling food prices amidst excess supply and strong base effect related to the VAT rate hike a year ago exacerbated the downtrend. However, it increased marginally in March on firming services and non-food prices (Chart V.5b).

V.3 Monetary Policy Stance

In 2019, monetary policy was said⁵ to have been the most accommodative across the world since the GFC. Most AEs as also some EMEs, kept their policy rate on hold in Q4:2019, but resorted to massive easing through both conventional and unconventional measures with the outbreak and rapid spread of COVID-19 in Q1:2020.

The US Fed, which had paused in two consecutive FOMC meetings in December 2019 and January 2020, resorted to emergency rate cuts – 50 bps on March 3 and 100 bps on March 15 (Chart V.6a). With these sharp reductions, the Fed brought down the target range for the Federal Funds rate to the same level as during the GFC. The Fed has also announced

several other measures such as asset purchases needed to support smooth market functioning and effective transmission of monetary policy, including commercial mortgage-backed securities in its purchase programme, lowering of the interest rate on primary credit to the same level as the top of the target range of the Federal Funds rate, allowing banks to use capital and liquidity buffers for lending, and reducing the reserve requirement to zero. The Fed has also launched dedicated facilities for financing support to commercial paper, primary dealers and money market mutual funds, while reviving the Term Asset-Backed Securities Loan Facility from the crisis time. The Fed would also be supporting credit to large employers, under new programmes. Besides, the Fed has also expanded dollar liquidity swap lines with other central banks and set up a temporary repo facility for foreign and international monetary authorities.

The European Central Bank (ECB), has not changed key rates since a 10 bps reduction in deposit rate announced in its September 2019 meeting. In its March 2020 meeting, however, the ECB announced an additional €120 billion of net asset purchases, temporary longer-term refinancing operations and more favourable terms and quantum for the targeted

⁵ See <https://blogs.imf.org/2020/01/28/a-call-for-vigilance-after-a-strong-year-for-risky-assets/>. Also <https://www.ft.com/content/b8709ca4-e8f8-11e9-85f4-d00e5018f061>.

longer-term refinancing operations (TLTRO) III for one year from June 2020. The ECB also announced a new €750 billion Pandemic Emergency Purchase Programme (PEPP) under which private and public sector securities would be purchased until end-2020 with flexibility on purchase flows over time, and across asset classes and jurisdictions, including Greek government bonds. The ECB also included non-financial commercial paper as eligible assets for its corporate sector purchase programme, and eased collateral requirements for its refinancing operations.

The Bank of England (BoE), which was on a pause after raising the Bank rate in August 2018, undertook two out-of-turn rate cuts in March – of 50 bps and 15 bps – thereby reducing the Bank rate to an all-time low of 0.1 per cent. The BoE also announced additional asset purchases of £200 billion to be completed quickly in 2020. The BoE also announced macro-prudential relaxations and other incentives in order to support the economy with funds to tackle COVID-19 repercussions.

The Bank of Canada (BoC), which was on a pause after October 2018, cut its policy rate by a cumulative 150 bps in March 2020, in three steps of 50 bps each to 0.25 per cent, to provide support to the Canadian financial system and the economy during the COVID-19 pandemic. The BoC has also introduced new liquidity support measures, including launching a quantitative easing programme.

The Bank of Japan announced an enhancement of monetary easing in March 2020. The Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA), which was on a pause from November 2019 after having reduced the cash rate to an all-time low in October, reduced the cash rate by 25 bps each on two occasions in March to a new low of 0.25 per cent. The RBA also undertook additional measures such as yield curve control to be achieved through bond purchases, term funding facility and remuneration of exchange settlement balances of

banks. The Reserve Bank of New Zealand undertook an emergency rate cut of 75 bps in March, pushing the policy rate to a new low of 0.25 per cent, besides announcing purchases under open market operations and other measures to support smooth functioning of the market.

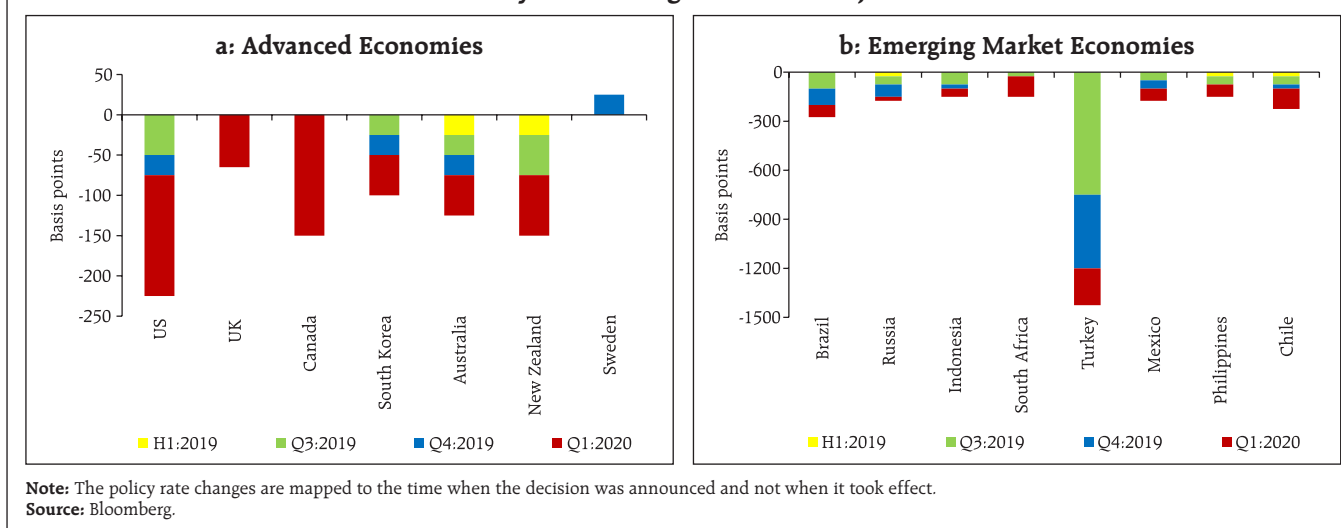
The Bank of Korea, on a pause since November 2019, undertook an emergency rate cut of 50 bps in March 2020 and announced other measures to stabilise economic and financial conditions.

Riksbank was one of the few central banks that raised policy rates in 2019 with a hike of 25 bps in December 2019, thereby moving out of negative policy rate territory. In an emergency monetary policy meeting in March, however, the Riksbank announced additional asset purchases of SEK 300 billion, besides offering increased funding to banks on favourable terms and other measures.

EMEs have also undertaken monetary easing and announced other liquidity support measures. The People's Bank of China (PBoC) had effected a 5 bps cut in the one-year Loan Prime Rate (LPR) in November and followed it up with another 10 bps reduction in February 2020. The PBoC also injected about 1.2 trillion Chinese yuan of liquidity when markets opened on February 3 after an extended lunar new year break. It also announced a low-cost refinancing facility aimed at small and medium sized enterprises. In March, the PBoC lowered the reserve ratios for certain categories of banks and lowered the 7-day reverse repo rate by 20 bps.

Other BRICS central banks remained in accommodative mode. The central bank of Brazil, which has been following 'stimulative monetary policy' and reducing the Selic rate since August 2019, cut this rate further by 50 bps each on two occasions in Q4:2019, and followed up with a 25 bps cut in February and a 50 bps cut in March. The Bank has also offered regulatory relaxations and other liquidity support facilities. The

Chart V.6: Policy Rate Changes – Select Major Economies



Bank of Russia, which had been reducing its policy rate in every policy meeting since June 2019, cut it by 25 bps each in its October, December and February meetings, but maintained a pause in the March meeting. The South African Reserve Bank, which had cut policy rate in July 2019 and had since maintained a pause, reduced its repo rate by 25 bps in January 2020 and a further 100 bps in March 2020 as the South African economy was expected to contract in 2020, having entered a recession in H2:2019 while inflation remained moderate (Chart V.6b).

The central bank of Turkey, which embarked on policy accommodation in July 2019, cumulatively cut the policy rate by 675 bps on five occasions since October 2019. Banco de México, which cut its policy rate by 25 bps in each of its meeting since August 2019 as growth stagnated for several quarters, effected a 50 bps cut in March. The central bank of Philippines and Bank Indonesia, which were on pause after cutting rates in September, cut their policy rates by 25 bps each in February 2020, and by 50 bps and 25 bps, respectively, in March to support growth. Other central banks that cut rates on COVID-19 concerns include, *inter alia*, the Bank of Thailand, the Bank Negara Malaysia and the Central Bank of Chile.

V.4 Global Financial Markets

Global financial markets witnessed firming up of risk-on sentiment in Q4:2019 as a host of factors that had kept markets on edge – notably, the US-China trade tensions; and uncertainty regarding Brexit – receded to an extent. There was a bout of risk-off sentiment in early January due to geopolitical tensions emanating from the US-Iran conflict. However, calm quickly returned but when China declared on January 20 that there had been cases of human to human transmission of the novel coronavirus, sentiments turned extremely volatile, exacerbated by disagreement on oil production cuts between OPEC and Russia in March. In the same week, the WHO categorised the COVID-19 as a pandemic, which led to a tailspin in the markets and financing conditions tightened worldwide.

Among AEs, US equities were on a continuous uptrend in Q4:2019, as the US Fed cut rates in October while the unemployment level in the US remained at a historic low. Positive news on the trade front – passing of the US-Mexico-Canada agreement by the House of Representatives and the announcement of the phase one agreement between the US and China – buoyed markets. In January, escalation of tension with Iran

pulled down equities for a brief period. Another slide occurred after the outbreak of COVID-19. As China took strong action to restrict the limit and impact of COVID-19, US equities began rising again, reaching all-time highs in the third week of February. Immediately thereafter, with the rapid spread of COVID-19 to Italy, South Korea and Iran, sentiments worsened and the US indices registered their worst weekly performance since the GFC. The US Fed issued a statement that it stood ready to support the economy and announced an out-of-turn rate cut, which led to a recovery in the market for a couple of days. After the fallout between Russia and Saudi Arabia on crude oil and COVID-19 being declared a pandemic, the US equity market hit circuit breakers on two days in one week (March 9 and 12) – March 12 was the worst trading day since the Black Monday crash of October 19, 1987. The markets hit a circuit breaker again on March 16, just after the second emergency rate cut by the Fed. The marginal recovery in the latter part of March was on account of economic stimulus package worth about US\$ 2 trillion being signed into law.

In the UK and the Euro area, equity markets gained strength from December onwards with the UK general elections and certainty about Brexit. In Japan, stocks rose in Q4:2019 on expectation of higher

profitability with favourable currency movement even as overall growth remained sluggish. With the COVID-19 outbreak, however, their indices crashed in sync with stock markets worldwide.

Stock markets in EMEs mirrored this pattern. Driven by risk-on sentiments, stock markets in most EMEs registered handsome gains in Q4:2019 (Chart V.7). In Q1:2020, EME stock markets have been driven mainly by concerns about COVID-19, with additional headwinds arising from the crude oil price war in March. Chinese stocks fell most on February 3 after an extended lunar break. Other EME markets suffered sharper slides with frequent trading curbs in the second week of March.

Bond yields firmed up across major AEs in the wake of risk-on sentiments, as also on improving global growth outlook and receding trade tensions in Q4:2019. With COVID-19, yields dipped on strong safe haven demand. In the US, the 10-year yield fell to historic lows in the fourth week of February as stock markets fell and demand for government bonds soared exemplifying flight to quality with the rapid spread of COVID-19 outside China and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention warning of increased risk to US residents. Yields dived below one

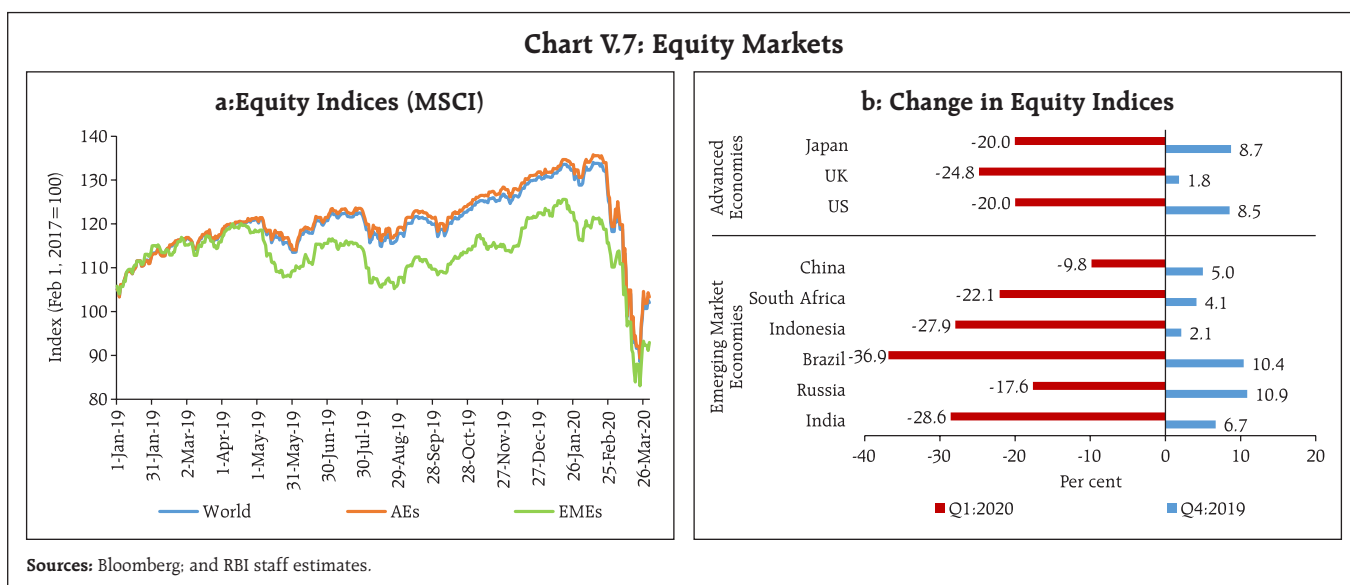
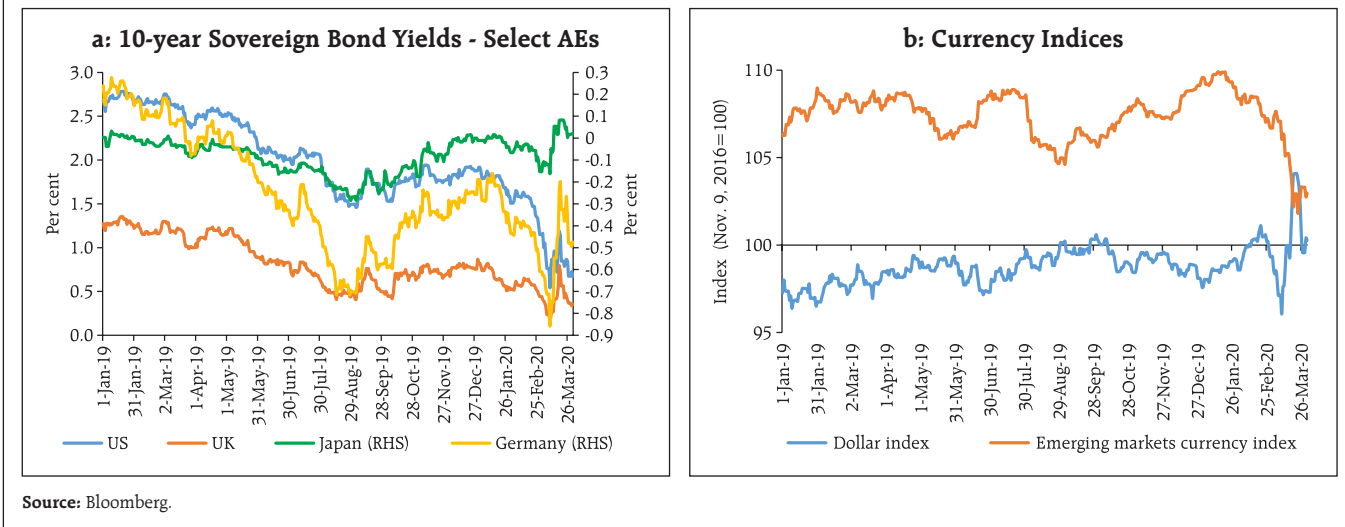


Chart V.8: Bond Yields and Currency Movements



per cent after the first emergency rate cut by the Fed, reaching an all-time low on March 9, before recovering marginally (Chart V.8a).

Similar rallies were seen in bonds in other AEs, with yields reaching new lows in the UK and the Euro area. Bond yields across AEs continued to dip up to March 9, but increased sharply thereafter, with 10-year Japanese yields turning positive. Yields in EMEs, in general, softened in Q4:2019 with search for yield driving rates down. However, yields broadly remained range-bound up to February, but sharp risk-off sentiment in March led to a rout and yields across these economies rose sharply.

In currency markets, the US dollar weakened against major currencies, with the policy rate reduction by the Fed in October and guidance that it would pause. The dollar recovered in January with receding of trade tensions. With COVID-19, safe haven demand pushed up the dollar index further. However, with the virus spreading to the US and rising fatalities, as well as the rate cut by the Fed, the dollar weakened in early March

(Chart V.8b). Most emerging market currencies, which had strengthened due to risk-on sentiment towards end-2019, weakened sharply with flight to safety in Q1:2020. The MSCI Emerging Market Currency Index increased by 3.6 per cent in Q4:2019 and declined by 6.0 per cent in Q1:2020.

V.5 Conclusion

In sum, global growth prospects have been rendered askew by COVID-19, with the near-term outlook extremely weak. Inflation in AEs remains benign, and a sharp decline in non-food commodity prices has imparted a further downward bias. Inflation concerns, however, remain in some EMEs although considerable uncertainty clouds the inflation outlook in the context of COVID-19. Global financial markets have become extremely volatile. Quick and coordinated actions by monetary authorities and governments have been taken, but there is little evidence as yet that they could mitigate the risks to the global economy from amplifying.

SPEECH

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises:
Challenges and Way Forward

Shaktikanta Das

*Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises: Challenges and Way Forward**

Shaktikanta Das

At the outset, I wish to thank ASSOCHAM for inviting me to their 15th Annual Banking Summit. More so because this is ASSOCHAM's centenary year. It is a remarkable accomplishment and I extend warm greetings to all those associated with ASSOCHAM. Over the years, ASSOCHAM has transformed itself into a forceful, proactive, forward-looking organisation to meet the aspirations of Indian business. I am certain that ASSOCHAM's journey towards excellence will continue.

In a country like India with a population size of about 1.3 billion, the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector has a vital role in the economy. It fosters entrepreneurship and generates large employment opportunities. As MSMEs absorb the surplus agricultural labour, they help reduce the problem of disguised unemployment in rural areas. MSMEs are also complementary to large industries as ancillary units and also play an important role in the whole eco-system of the secondary and tertiary sector.

We all are aware that the MSME sector is passing through a challenging phase. The theme of today's Summit - 'Structural Reforms in MSME Funding' - chosen by ASSOCHAM, therefore, could not be more apt and timely. In my address today, I would begin by underlining the importance of the MSMEs to the economy. I would then delve into some challenges faced by them and discuss some of the measures undertaken by the Reserve Bank. I shall also list out some issues as a way forward.

* Shri Shaktikanta Das, Governor, Reserve Bank of India, Address at the 15th Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) Annual Banking Summit held in Mumbai on March 6, 2020.

I. Importance to the Economy

Let me begin by highlighting a few stylised facts on the contribution of MSME sector in India. The MSME sector contributes in a significant way to the growth of the Indian economy with a vast network of about 6.3 crore units and a share of around 30 per cent in nominal GDP in 2016-17¹. The share of the sector in total manufacturing output was even higher at 45 per cent². Taking cognisance of the wider set of benefits that the sector offers to the rest of the economy, the Government has envisioned to increase its contribution to GDP to over 50 per cent in next few years as the country aspires for a ₹5 trillion economy³.

As per the 73rd round of National Sample Survey (NSS) conducted during the period 2015-16, the estimated employment in MSME sector was around 11 crore. Within MSME sector, each of the three sub-sectors, namely, trade, manufacturing and other services accounted for about a third of total employment. Around 50 per cent of the total MSMEs operate in rural areas and provide 45 per cent of total employment. Interestingly, the micro enterprises account for 97 per cent of total employment in MSME sector⁴. This relates to the problem of what is called the missing middle⁵, which suggests that micro firms have failed to grow into smaller and medium firms and so on over time. This seems to have kept the micro sector bereft of enjoying economies of scale, investment into fixed assets, adoption of technology and innovation.

The share of MSME sector in India's merchandise exports stood at around 48 per cent in 2018-19⁶. This

¹ Annual Report, Ministry of MSME 2018-19.

² Report of the Expert Committee on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (Chairman: U.K. Sinha), June 25, 2019.

³ Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India, September 24, 2019.

⁴ Annual Report Ministry of MSME 2018-19

⁵ Krueger, A. O. (2013). The missing middle. *Economic reform in India: Challenges, prospects, and lessons*, 299.

⁶ Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India, July 2019

signifies that Indian MSMEs are becoming globally competitive and their products/services are being accepted overseas. In this background, special attention needs to be given to improve the competitiveness and technology up-gradation endeavours. Various schemes and programmes of the Government, therefore, should be continued and effectively implemented.

II. Challenges in the MSME Sector

Despite the MSME sector contributing significantly to the economy, it continues to face several challenges. The major challenges include physical infrastructure bottlenecks; absence of formalisation; inertia to technology adoption; capacity building; backward and forward linkages; lack of access to credit and risk capital; and the perennial problem of delayed payments, among others. Let me now elaborate on some of these issues.

Infrastructure bottlenecks and Competition

Notwithstanding various efforts to upgrade the infrastructure, the MSME clusters, particularly the micro enterprises, are inadequately equipped with necessary support systems which not only impede their day-to-day business operations but also their future growth prospects. While infrastructure constraint is only one side of the story, I believe that MSMEs also need to do their bit to improve competitiveness. They need to shed their inhibition to adopt new technologies; accept e-payments; and foster in-house innovation which will help them manage their businesses digitally and compete globally. Given the current scenario of global trade, the age-old methods of operating business with low levels of technology adoption deprives them of potential economies of scale. Lack of expertise in product development, designing, packaging and marketing strategy due to their small size add up to the pressure of adapting to the changing environment around them. The strategy for MSMEs should be to gradually expand in size and reduce the dependence on the incentive structure provided by the Government. Their aim should be eventually to compete on a global scale.

Access to Credit and Formalisation

Credit plays a vital role in the development of MSME sector as funds at a reasonable cost can increase their competitiveness. Credit disbursal to this sector has, however, remained sluggish in recent periods. At an aggregate level, the total credit outstanding from banks and NBFCs to the MSME sector was approximately ₹16.6 lakh crore as at end of September, 2019. Scheduled commercial banks account for 90 per cent share of total credit outstanding.

As many MSMEs mainly operate in the informal space assessing their creditworthiness can be difficult due to information asymmetry, particularly with respect to the financial performance of their businesses. In the absence of collateral, under-writing the customer often entails higher operating cost. Furthermore, due to their small-scale operations, MSMEs are not able to raise risk capital. They are also unable to take advantage of most of the Government schemes which are mostly based on digital infrastructure and require beneficiaries to have some form of digital identity and presence. With the implementation of structural reforms like goods and service tax (GST) and Jan Dhan-Aadhaar-Mobile (JAM) trinity, the informal units are, however, getting integrated with the mainstream in recent years.

Delayed Payments

A large number of MSMEs are ancillary units catering to the needs of large industries, both in the public and private sector. They often face the problem of delayed payments, affecting their cash flow and working capital availability. Most of the time, delay in realisation of such receivables increases their operating cycle and reduces their ability to procure new orders or fulfil the existing ones. A primary survey conducted by the Reserve Bank in December 2019 showed that 44 per cent of MSMEs engaged in manufacturing activities faced delay in payments. The ones not receiving timely payment mainly belonged to basic metal and metal products, engineering, construction and infrastructure related industries.

On the other hand, delay in payments was lower at 27 per cent for services sector. Here transport operators mostly faced such situations. Although Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Act, 2006 contains provisions related to penalty in case of delayed payments by the buyers, weak bargaining power and the fear of losing the business prevents MSMEs to invoke this provision.

III. Expert Committee on MSMEs

In order to understand the structural bottlenecks and factors affecting the performance of the MSMEs, RBI had set up an Expert Committee on MSMEs under the Chairmanship of Shri U.K Sinha in January 2019. The Committee has undertaken comprehensive review of the sector and given several recommendations for the economic and financial sustainability of the MSME sector. These recommendations are wide-ranging and broadly relate to legislative changes; infrastructure development; capacity building; technological upgradation; improving backward and forward linkages; improving financial support from formal sources; newer technological interventions for robust underwriting practices; and credit delivery, among others. While some of the recommendations of the Committee have already been implemented, others are under consideration by the authorities concerned.

IV. Measures Undertaken by RBI

Measures to Improve the Credit Flow

The Reserve Bank has taken several measures in the recent period to improve the flow of credit to the MSME sector. Banks form the predominant source of formal credit to MSMEs with all such loans by banks qualifying for Priority Sector Lending classification. In August 2019, we have further incentivised banks to lend to MSMEs through the NBFC sector. Consequently, bank credit to registered NBFCs (other than Micro Finance Institutions) for on-lending to micro and small enterprises up to ₹20 lakh per borrower are eligible for classification as priority sector lending.

A scheme of one-time restructuring without an asset classification downgrade was permitted to GST registered MSME accounts that were in default but standard as on January 1, 2019. As the process of formalisation of the MSME sector has a positive impact on financial stability and this process is still underway, the scheme has been extended to accounts that are standard but in default as on January 1, 2020 and restructuring, wherever eligible, has to be implemented latest by December 31, 2020. This will enhance the scope of the scheme by benefitting the eligible MSME entities which could not be restructured under the provisions of the circular dated January 1, 2019 as also the MSME entities which have become stressed thereafter. So far, banks have restructured 6 lakh accounts out of 15 lakh eligible accounts under the scheme. Our primary survey suggested lack of awareness about the scheme among the MSMEs.

We have announced last month that incremental loans to MSMEs along with retail loans for automobiles and residential housing will be exempted from CRR from fortnight ending January 31, 2020 up to fortnight ending July 31, 2020.

Subsequent to the introduction of an external benchmark system in October 2019, the monetary policy transmission has improved where new floating rate loans to the micro and small entrepreneurs were linked to the external benchmark. With a view to further strengthening monetary policy transmission, all new floating rate loans to medium enterprises extended by banks from April 01, 2020 will also be linked to the external benchmarks.

Addressing Delayed Payments

As I have mentioned earlier, delay in getting payments is one the perennial problems faced by MSMEs. To address this issue, the Reserve Bank introduced the Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS) in 2014. TReDS is an electronic platform where receivables of MSMEs drawn against buyers (large corporates, PSUs, Government departments) are

financed through multiple financiers at competitive rates. This is done through an auction-based mechanism. To widen the scope of TReDS and to incentivise more players to be part of this platform, banks' exposure through this platform were brought under priority sector lending in 2016. Presently, three entities, [*viz.*, Receivables Exchange of India Ltd. (RXIL), A. TReDS, and Mynd Solutions] licensed by the Reserve Bank are operating the platform for more than two years. Further, the Reserve Bank recently allowed 'on tap' authorisation to entities desirous to provide platforms for TReDS. Hence, in coming years, competition in receivables discounting space is bound to increase with the entry of new players. This requires the corporates, both in the public and private sector, to join the TReDS platform and make the system more efficient.

In 2018, the Government made it mandatory for all companies with a turnover greater than ₹500 crores to register with TReDS. As on February 2020, while 8211 MSME sellers were registered, only 1530 buyers were participating on the platforms. I would appeal to the ASSOCHAM to encourage and handhold all its members to participate in the TReDS platform.

In the Union Budget 2020-21, the Government has announced app-based invoice financing products to obviate the problem of delayed payments of MSME. The mechanism may prove complementary to the TReDS platform and would further alleviate the problem of delayed payments.

V. Way forward

As the MSME sector holds immense potential, the need is to have a right set of policies and enabling framework which guide and support MSMEs to effectively handle their existing problems and venture into new areas. While both the Government and the RBI have introduced a plethora of measures for improving access to finance and to promote growth of the sector, the small size of individual units and informal nature of the sector continue to pose challenges.

The traditional bank lending system by banks is based on financial statements and collateral of the borrower. With increased availability of data from several sources, including GSTN, income tax, credit bureaus, *etc.*, it is now possible to appraise the MSME loan proposals expeditiously by doing due diligence online. Further, with the help of Account Aggregators (AA), lenders will have access to potential borrower's financial information at a single point, of course, with his/her consent. Furthermore, emergence of FinTech companies has made it possible to assess credit worthiness of MSMEs by utilising unexplored data sources such as digital transaction trails, data generated through e-commerce sites, *etc.* Some lenders are collaborating with FinTech companies to take advantage of such surrogate data for speedier credit underwriting for extending loans to MSME sector. These new architectures would expand the reach of credit.

While the new models are beneficial for those units which are digitally active, a large segment of MSME units access credit through traditional lending models. While micro enterprises act as a starting stage of entrepreneurship that requires low investment in technology, units graduating to small and medium enterprises have to enhance their technical capacity and explore newer markets in order to stay competitive for sustainable growth. Recent policy efforts will provide an enabling environment and facilitate the MSME sector seize the new emerging opportunities. I must add that as a regulator, we in RBI have to safeguard financial stability while ensuring wider access to finance. Banks and other players on their part have to ensure prudent lending.

Besides, we in RBI have started launching cohorts under the Regulatory Sandbox. First such cohort was launched in November 2019 with the theme of 'Retail Payments' to spur innovation in digital payments space to design and test newer payment services for the unserved and underserved segments. In due course, we propose to run a regulatory sandbox for cohorts

focused on lending. This would promote innovation in MSME lending segment. The project on Public Credit Registry (PCR) will fundamentally address the information asymmetry that impedes access to credit for micro and small entrepreneurs. The PCR has been envisaged as a database of core credit information. The registry would play crucial role in reducing credit gap in the segment.

Given the fact that the MSME sector contributes significantly to exports, it is essential that they should be integrated with global value chains (GVC) to remain competitive as it offers unique opportunity to become technologically and digitally empowered. Being part of GVC would enable MSMEs to produce quality goods

and services which will have greater acceptability in the global market. The major challenges for the sector to connect to the GVC are lack of information, knowledge of markets and quality standards. In this regard, I see a greater role for cooperation among all stakeholders.

Let me conclude by reiterating that industry bodies like the ASSOCHAM will need to extend their role and assist MSMEs embrace best business practices in line with the fast-changing business environment.

I wish this summit of ASSOCHAM all success in its centenary year.

Thank You.

ARTICLES

Climate Change: Macroeconomic Impact and
Policy Options for Mitigating Risks

Union Budget 2020-21 – An Assessment

*Climate Change: Macroeconomic Impact and Policy Options for Mitigating Risks**

This article highlights the rising risks from climate change to the macroeconomic outlook of economies around the world and also reviews the available risk mitigating policy options. An analysis of major weather-related events in India since 1901 shows that the incidence of extreme events has increased in the last two decades, with rising average temperature levels and more volatile precipitation pattern relative to the long period average (LPA). Empirical findings suggest that the macroeconomic impact of climate change, particularly on food inflation and certain indicators of real economic activity, has been statistically significant for India.

Introduction

Climate change and the associated shift in weather pattern following an increase in average global temperature has emerged as a key risk to the macroeconomic outlook of both advanced and emerging economies. The United Nations notes that 'the climate change is the defining issue of our time and we are at a defining moment'. India has also witnessed significant changes in climatic patterns in the recent period. With the increase in population, the cumulative level of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions has increased, resulting in a rise of average temperature. According to a study by the International Energy Agency (IEA), India emitted 2,299 million tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂) in 2018, a rise of 4.8 per cent over the previous year¹.

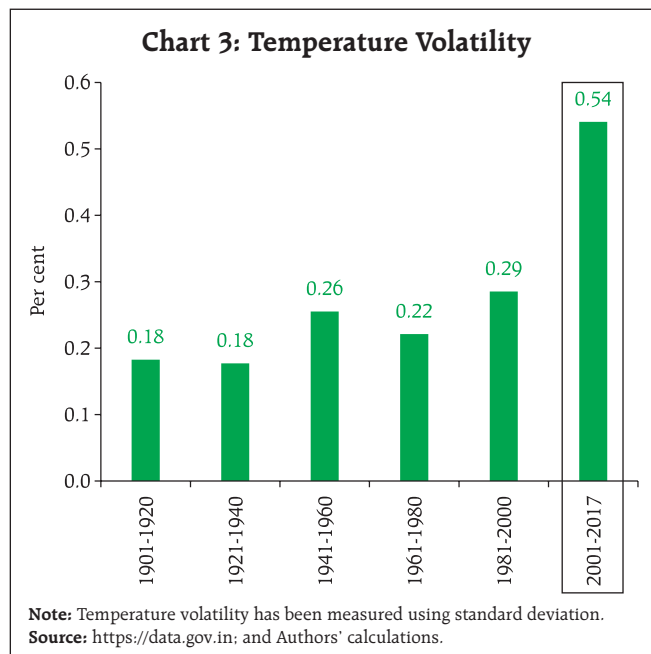
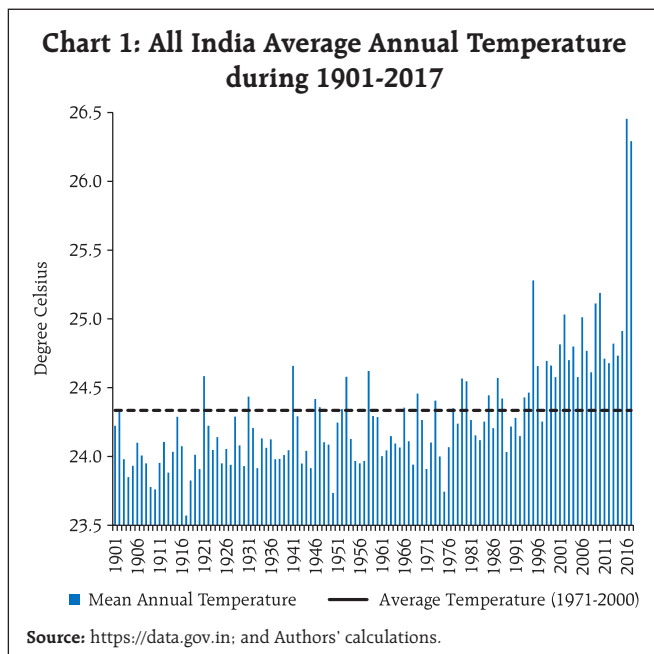
* This article is prepared by Archana Dilip and Sujata Kundu. Research Officers posted in the Financial Markets Operations Department (FMOD) and Department of Economic and Policy Research (DEPR), Reserve Bank of India (RBI), respectively. The views expressed in this article are those of the authors and do not represent the views of the Reserve Bank of India.

¹ In 2018, the growth rate of CO₂ emission for India surpassed that of US and China, which are considered as the biggest emitters in the world.

In India, the growth and inflation outlook continues to be influenced by the amount of rainfall received from the south west monsoon (SWM) season (June-September) and its distribution. The country receives around 75 per cent of its annual rainfall during these four months, which is vital for the agricultural sector, as 65 per cent of the gross cropped area in India still remains unirrigated. In 2019, India received one of the highest levels of SWM rains in the past two decades. However, a prolonged dry spell in the initial months coupled with very heavy/excessive rainfall as monsoon progressed led to floods and crop damage in several parts of the country.

Besides precipitation (rainfall), temperature and its variability is another key indicator of changing climatic conditions. During the past two decades, the mean annual temperature in India has witnessed a significant rise. So far, as per the India Meteorological Department (IMD), 2016 has been the warmest year on record for India. While the gradually rising average temperature is a long-term feature of changing climatic conditions all over the world, extreme/volatile weather events like changing rainfall patterns, its skewed distribution, increasing frequency and intensity of floods, unseasonal rainfall, heat waves and droughts pose serious macroeconomic risks. India is also witnessing rising sea levels and melting of glaciers, which can be attributed to global warming. The gradually rising sea levels may reduce the area of available arable land.

At the current rate of increase in temperature, extreme precipitation and temperature events can become a regular feature, with the potential for causing severe damage to the livelihood of people and output [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), 2018]. Thus, climate change, along with rapid advancements in technology and demographic shifts, has the potential to bring about significant economic transformation (Rudebusch, 2019). Changes in climatic conditions can have



temperature (as well as temperature volatility) during 2001-17 has been significantly higher than during any other 20-year time interval since 1901 (Charts 2 and 3).

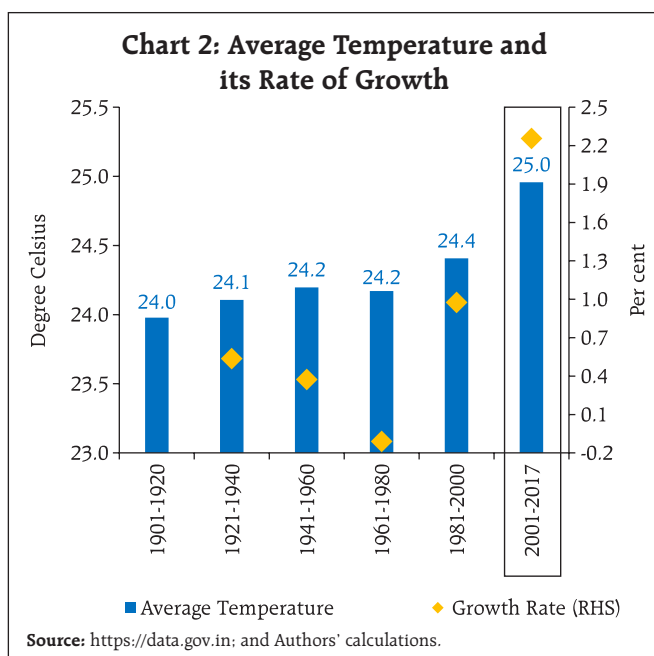
Intra-year periodic averages of temperature pattern in India are such that the minimum temperature during any year usually falls during January-February (winter months), while the maximum temperature is generally observed during March-May (pre-monsoon

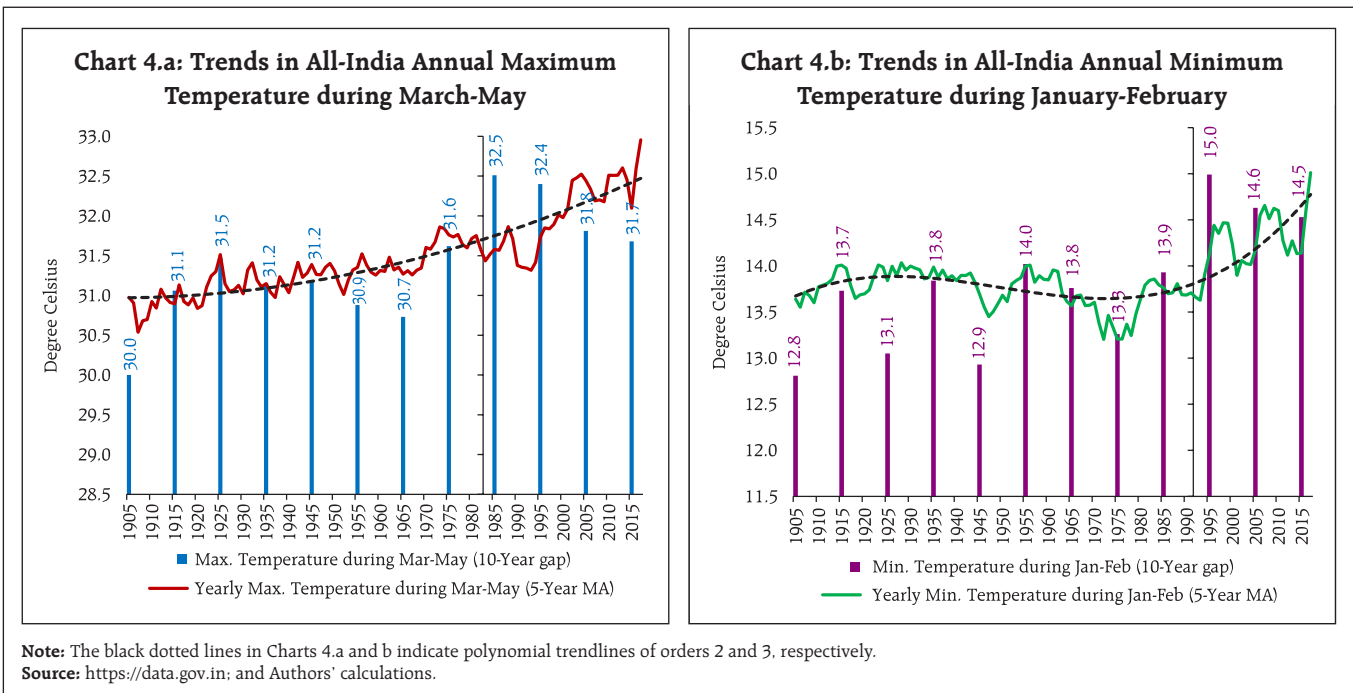
months). Data indicate increasing trends in both minimum and maximum temperatures over the years during these months (Charts 4.a and 4.b). Further, the 5-year moving averages (MA) since 1901 show higher fluctuations around rising trends, particularly during the past 30 years.

Rainfall

The deviations in SWM from its usual pattern/distribution pose a key risk to the macroeconomic outlook. Over the years, the dynamics of the SWM season appears to have undergone gradual changes. For instance, during 2019, despite a delayed onset (June 8, 2019) and a highly deficient phase during June (33 per cent from LPA), the season ended with a 10 per cent above normal rainfall, which is the highest recorded in the past 25 years (the highest during the period 1990-2019 being 12.5 per cent in 1994) (Chart 5).

In 2019, after witnessing a significant rainfall deficiency in June, monsoon gained some pace in July (Charts 6.a and 6.b). However, the extent of excess rainfall during August and September was large (Charts 6.c and 6.d). In August, rainfall was 15 per cent above LPA, highest in the past 23 years, while in September,





it was 52 per cent above LPA, the highest since 1918. Further, the extent of rainfall during August and September taken together (557 mm) was the highest recorded since 1983 (564 mm).

Furthermore, the onset and withdrawal dates of the SWM (since 2010) provide useful information

to analyse visible changes in its timeline (Table 1). As per the IMD, the normal dates for the onset and withdrawal of SWM are June 1 and September 1, respectively. The onset of SWM was delayed in five years since 2010 with the average delay being five days. During 2019, the onset was delayed by seven days. What was particularly disruptive was the delay of 39 days in its withdrawal, which is in sharp contrast to the previous nine years.³ The number of days taken

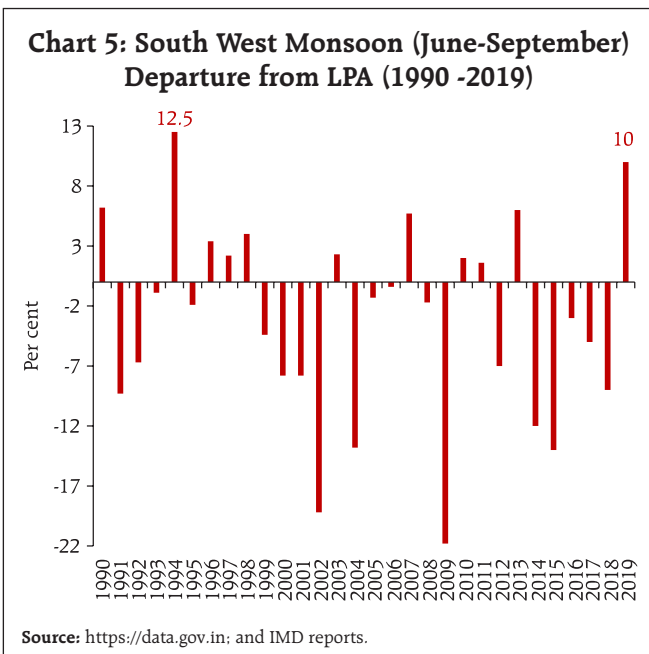


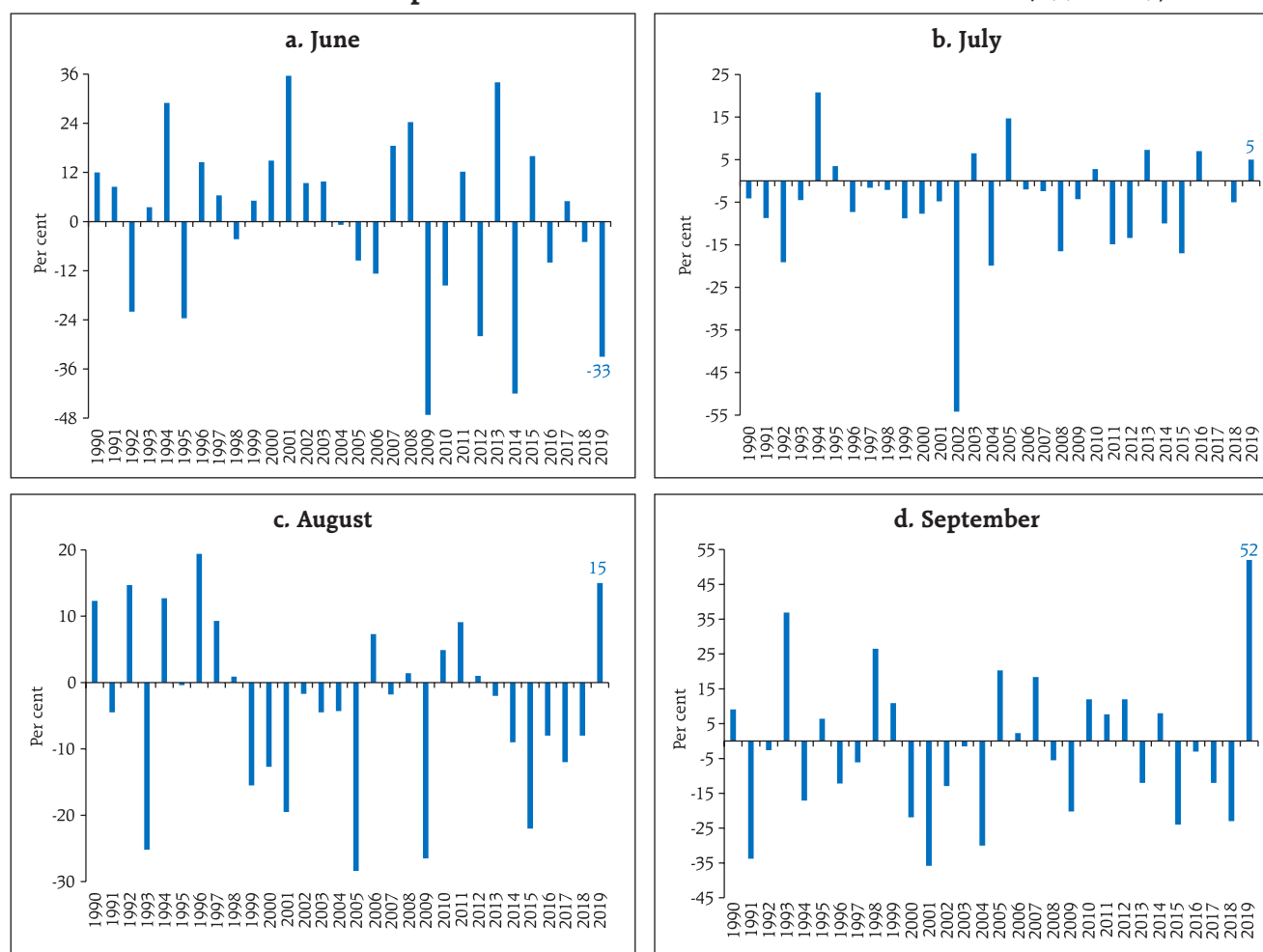
Table 1: South West Monsoon Onset and Withdrawal Timeline (Number of Days)

Year	Delay in Onset	Delay in Withdrawal	Time Taken for Complete Withdrawal
2010	1	27	33
2011	3	23	32
2012	-4	24	25
2013	0	9	43
2014	-5	23	26
2015	-4	4	46
2016	-7	15	44
2017	2	27	15
2018	3	29	23
2019	-7	39	8

Source: Monsoon reports, IMD.

³ As per IMD reports, prior to 2019 the most delayed withdrawal of SWM was recorded in 1961 (October 1; 31 days) and 2007 (September 30; 30 days).

Chart 6: Month-wise Departure of South West Monsoon Rainfall from LPA (1990-2019)



Source: <https://data.gov.in>; and IMD reports.

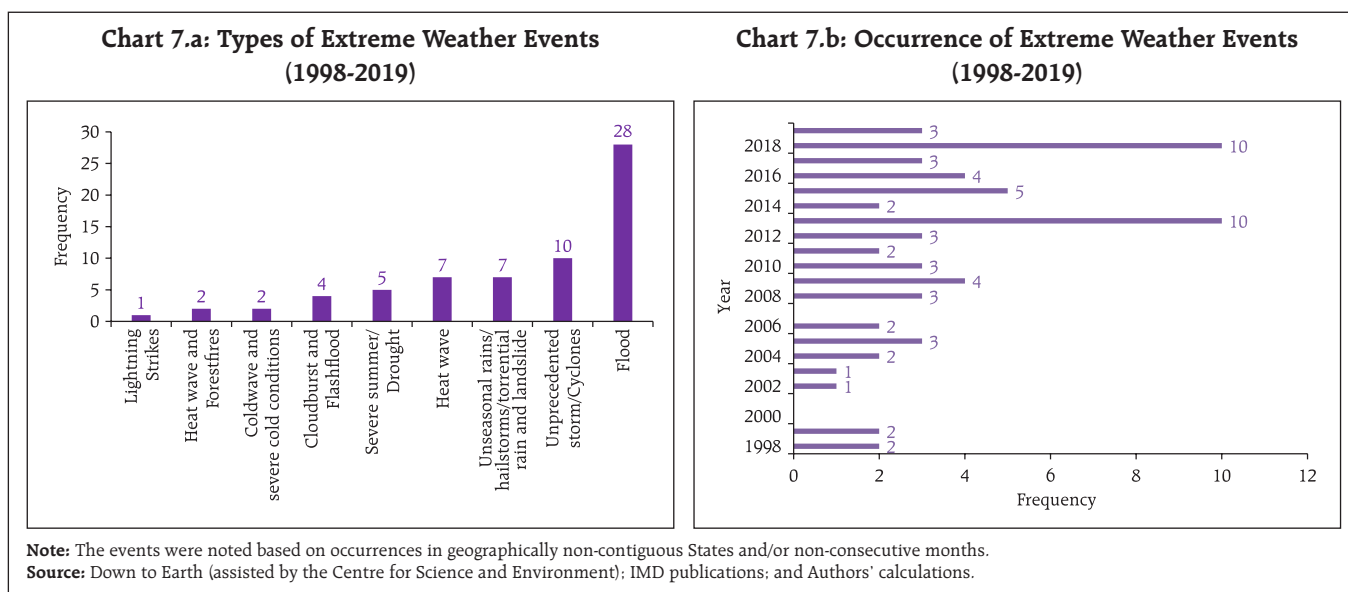
by the SWM for its complete withdrawal (eight days only) was also unusual. Additionally, the withdrawal of SWM in 2019 coincided with the onset of the north-east monsoon, a fairly new phenomenon.

Extreme Weather Events

Along with gradual changes in temperature and rainfall patterns, extreme weather events, such as excessive/unseasonal rainfall (often leading to floods), severe temperature fluctuations (e.g., heat waves and cold waves) and high wind speeds (e.g., cyclones) are being witnessed with rising frequency and intensity

all over the world. In India too, during the past two decades, floods followed by cyclones, unseasonal rainfall and heat waves have been the major types of extreme weather events (Chart 7.a). The frequency of these events has also increased since 2008 (Chart 7.b).

Incidents of major floods and torrential rains have been reported largely since 2004, while unseasonal rainfall has been a rising concern since 2011. Moreover, if we look at the regional spread of these events, it is found that some of the major agricultural States (either food grain or cash crop producers) are



the most affected (Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh) (Chart 8).

III. Literature Review

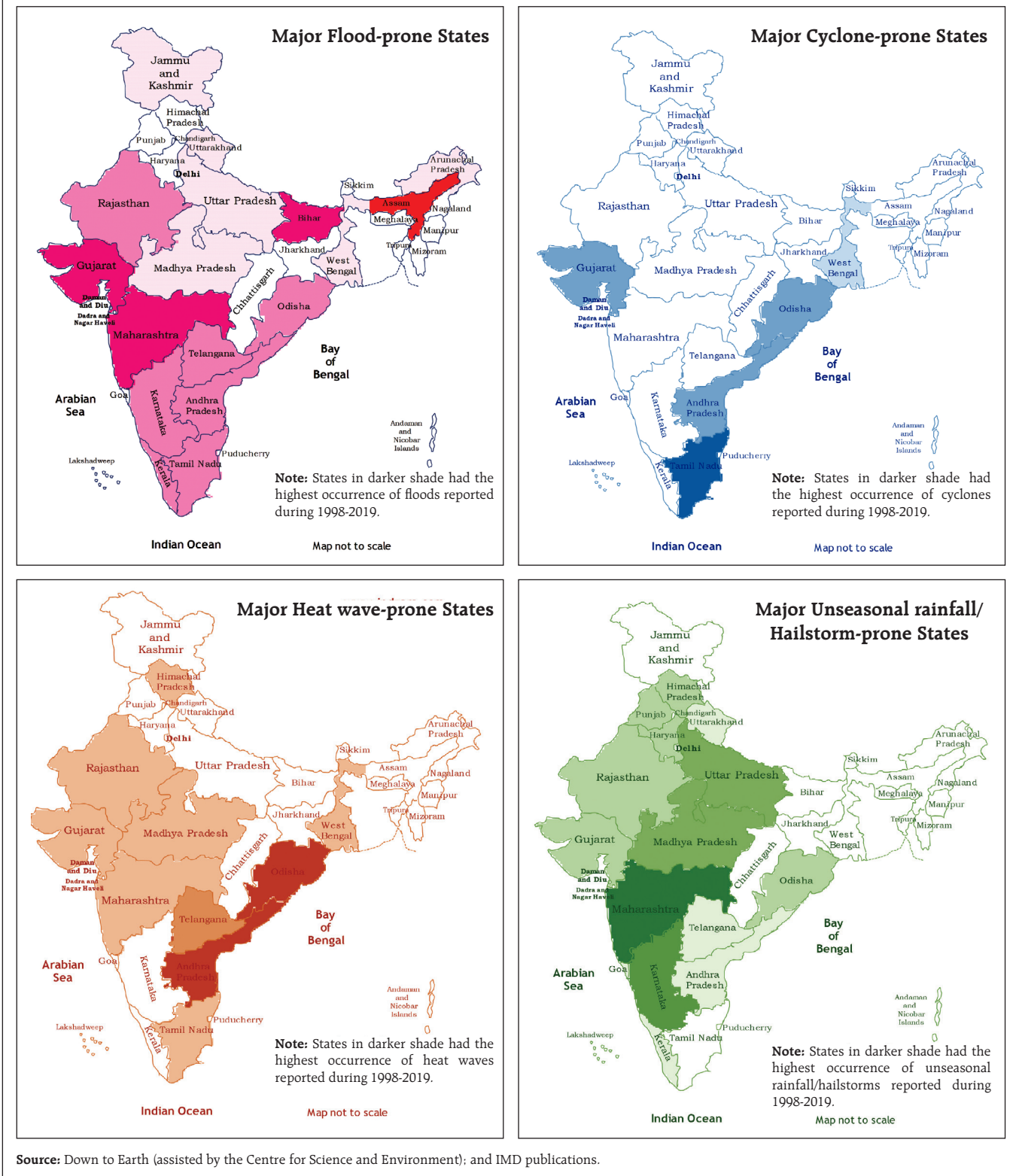
The literature on climate change and its impact on the economy is overwhelming in terms of both the depth of analysis and coverage of the range of complex issues. While in the context of developed economies a lot of work has been done, the literature is still at a nascent stage for the developing economies. Policy makers and central bankers are also realising the growing economic consequences/risks of climate change, necessitating changes in the systems for modelling and forecasting of macroeconomic variables (Nordhaus, 2017; Batten, 2018). The literature suggests that climate-related disclosures could lead to an orderly transition to a low carbon economy if the process helps a majority of the investors in better evaluation of their financial risk exposures (Batten *et al.*, 2016).

With regard to the impact of weather fluctuations on the overall economic health, studies have generally focused on aggregate economic output and agricultural yields. For example, findings from a study show that higher temperatures may not only have an

adverse impact on the level of aggregate economic output but may also reduce its growth rate (Dell *et al.*, 2012; Acevedo *et al.*, 2018). Another study shows that during 1964-2007, drought and extreme heat damaged agricultural production significantly across the globe, and recent droughts caused a larger impact on cereals production than the earlier ones (Lesk *et al.*, 2016).

Studies also indicate that climate change is causing negative impact on living standards, livestock productivity, and food security in drylands (Mani *et al.*, 2018; IPCC, 2019). Temperature-related extreme weather events have a stronger association with agricultural yield anomalies than precipitation-related factors; irrigation facilities help mitigate the negative effects of temperature extremes but only partially (Vogel *et al.*, 2019). Using a panel dataset of 174 countries for the period 1960-2014, a study finds that per capita real output growth is adversely affected by persistent deviations in temperature from its historical norm (Kahn *et al.*, 2019). It also provides evidence for a sustained negative impact of climate change on real output, labour productivity and employment across many States and sectors. Similar findings for the US are also found in Colacito *et al.*, (2018). Using a Macro Weather Index, a study done in Japan found

Chart 8: Regional Spread of Major Extreme Weather Events in India



that a rise in precipitation would result in a decline in consumer spending and a rise in temperature would cause the private consumption to increase in summer and decrease in winter (Akutsu and Koike, 2019).

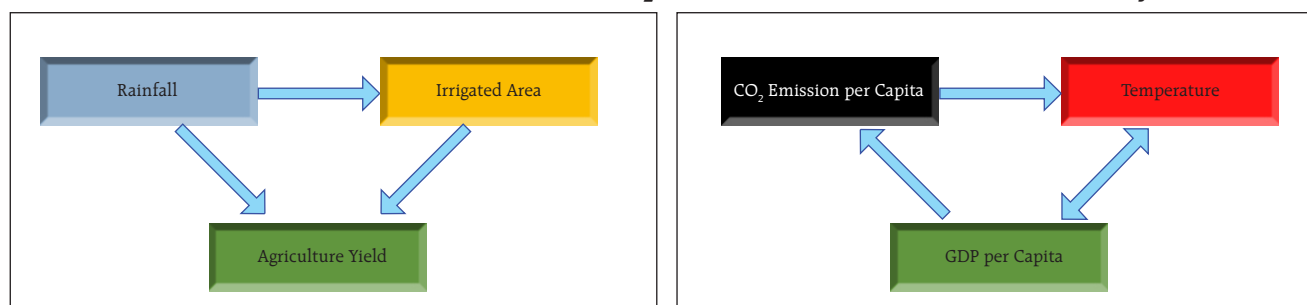
In the Indian context, there are a few studies that have highlighted the risks from climate change primarily on the farm sector (in particular, crop yields) and living standards of people. India is seen to be more vulnerable to climate change than the US, China, Russia, and most other parts of the world, barring Africa (Joshi and Patel, 2009). Using a district-level panel dataset for 1957-2000, it is estimated that a one standard deviation increase in high temperature days in a year decreases agricultural yields and real wages by 12.6 per cent and 9.8 per cent, respectively, while increasing the annual mortality among rural population by 7.3 per cent (Burgess *et al.*, 2014). Another study analysing the impact of exposure to extreme temperatures on crop yields across crops (such as paddy, *jowar*, *ragi* and pigeon pea) in Karnataka finds an inverse linear relationship between crop yields and extreme temperature days, with the impact of temperature on yields exceeding that of rainfall (Murari *et al.*, 2018). Furthermore, an increase in temperature is seen to reduce agricultural productivity, while rainfall (unless in excess) tends to nullify it (Birthal *et al.*, 2014). A persistent increase in temperature in India in the absence of risk mitigating policies can cause the per capita GDP to reduce by 6.4 per cent by 2100 (Kahn *et al.*, 2019).

IV. Empirical Analysis for India

The amount of CO₂ emission in India has been a major concern as scientists have argued that the emissions are the main culprit for the rising temperature levels. Also, it is widely believed that increased economic activity results in more emission of CO₂. Therefore, to begin with, three sets of pair-wise Granger-causality tests are conducted using data on GDP per capita, CO₂ emission (metric tons) per capita, and annual average temperature for the period 1960-2014 in the Indian context. The results show that economic activity measured by GDP per capita causes CO₂ emissions and CO₂ emissions cause increase in average temperature (Annex Table 2.a). Moreover, the results indicate the existence of a bi-directional causality between temperature and GDP per capita. As expected, rainfall affects the amount of available irrigated area (gross irrigated area), which in turn affects agricultural yield (output and/or sown area) (Annex Table 2.b). The results are also summarised in the form of flowcharts (Illustration 2).

Considering the diverse climatic conditions in India at any given point of time, simple averages of weather indicators across all States may not be able to fully capture the true nature of changing patterns. In order to account for this problem, weather indices – temperature index and precipitation index – are computed as weighted averages of deviations from long-run averages. Further, as most of the economic data are available for the economy as a whole and on

Illustration 2: Relation Between Temperature, Rainfall and Economic Activity



Source: Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare; World Bank; NSO; and Authors' calculations.

a monthly frequency, the indices are calculated on a monthly basis at the all India level.

Following Bloesch and Gourio (2015), the steps involved in the construction of the indices are outlined below:

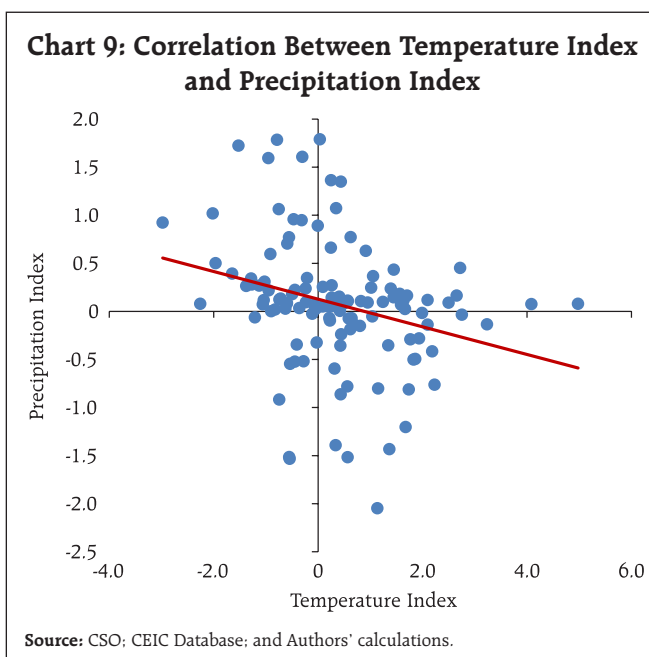
Step 1: Data on monthly deviations (difference between the monthly average and long-run normal) of temperature and rainfall for the important weather stations of the country are obtained. Let the deviations be denoted as D_i where i represents the State/station.

Step 2: The deviations are normalised by a measure of variability, which is standard deviation (σ_i). Let the normalised deviations (ratio of temperature/rainfall deviation to standard deviation) be represented as \widehat{D}_i .

Step 3: The normalised deviations over all States are aggregated by weighting the States by their population (w_i), assuming that the economic activity is correlated with population.

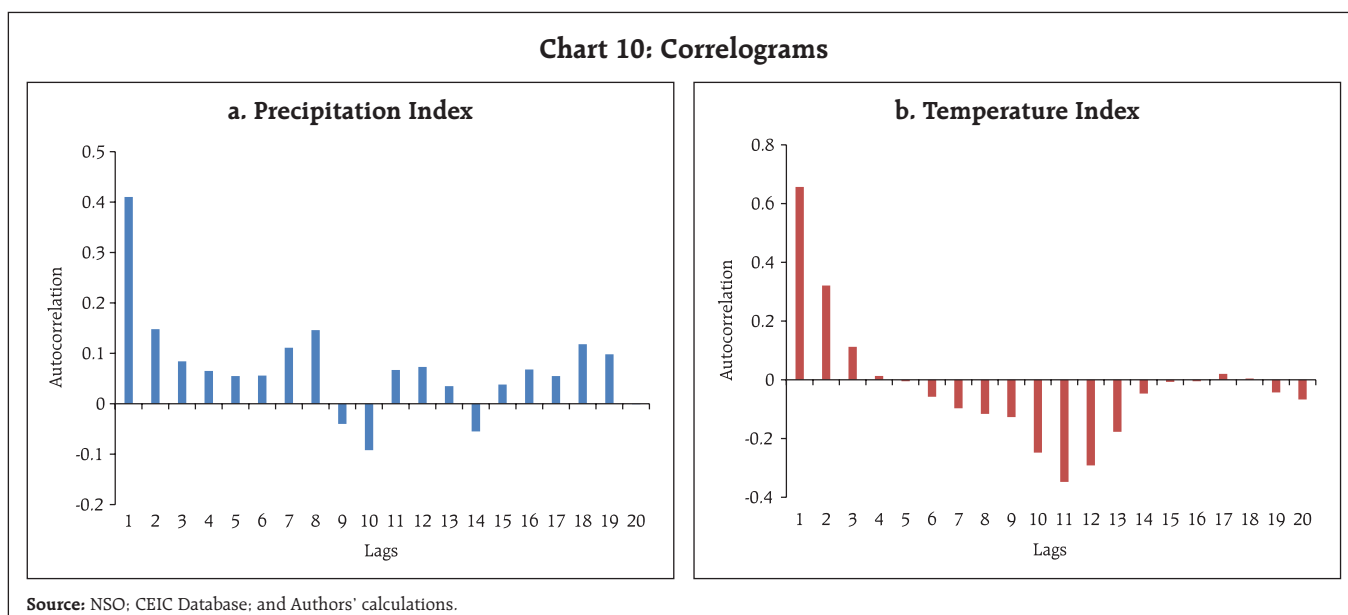
$$\bar{D} = \frac{\sum_i w_i \widehat{D}_i}{\sum_i w_i}$$

Step 4: Considering the importance of the SWM on India's economic activity, \bar{D} is then normalised with the mean and standard deviation over June-September.



As expected in the Indian context, the scatter plot of the temperature index against the precipitation index constructed for the period October 2009-July 2019 displays a negative and statistically significant correlation [(-)0.32]. This indicates that temperature decreases with an increase in precipitation (Chart 9).

Additionally, the correlograms for the precipitation and temperature indices show how long the deviations persist (Chart 10). In the case of temperature index, the correlation falls quickly. The

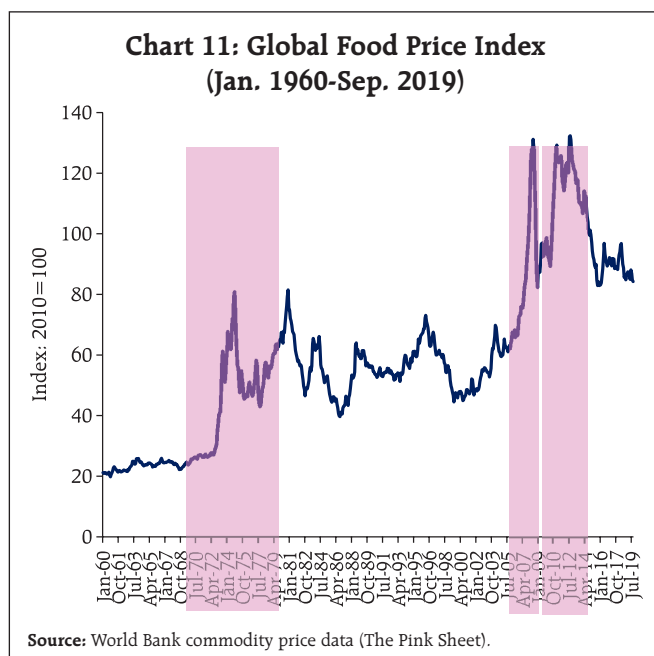


lasting positive correlation in the precipitation index indicates longer monsoons and shrinkage of the gap between the SWM withdrawal and arrival of the north-east monsoon.

The impact of climate change on inflation and economic activity are analysed in the next two subsections. Here, although there are other factors like sea level and wind patterns that indicate the changing climatic pattern, the analysis is done to study the effect of temperature and precipitation (as measured using the indices) alone for ease.⁴

IV.1. Impact on Inflation

Globally, periods of food price spikes have always been driven by weather-related events with the channel of impact being crop loss/lower agricultural production. During the last six decades, there were three major episodes of significantly high food prices globally: 1970s; 2007-08; and 2010-14, all of which were triggered by adverse weather shocks followed by other factors like increase in oil prices, trade policy interventions and biofuel consumption (Chart 11).



⁴ With the increase in frequency of extreme events, the effect of temperature and precipitation are likely to change.

In the case of India, headline inflation⁵ has moderated significantly over the years alongside a remarkable fall in food inflation (Annex Table 3). With food group comprising 46 per cent of the overall Consumer Price Index (CPI), it remains a crucial determinant of the headline inflation trajectory. Both inflation and its volatility across different food components exhibit distinct patterns. Vegetables inflation has remained high (6.8 per cent) during January 2012-September 2019 along with significantly high volatility (15.8 per cent). Further, it is one of the key components in CPI-food (weight: 13.2 per cent in CPI-Food) having a strong positive correlation with overall food inflation (Table 2).

Rainfall deviation has a good association with vegetables inflation and thereby, with overall food inflation. There is growing evidence of newspaper

Table 2: CPI-Food and Beverages and its Major Components: Summary Statistics

Components	Correlation with Food Inflation	Average Inflation (per cent)	Inflation Volatility (per cent)
Cereals and products (21.1)	0.77***	5.3	4.3
Meat and fish (7.9)	0.81***	7.3	3.6
Egg (0.9)	0.72***	5.9	5.4
Milk and products (14.4)	0.64***	6.4	3.9
Oils and fats (7.8)	0.47***	4.6	4.7
Fruits (6.3)	0.51***	5.9	5.5
Vegetables (13.2)	0.78***	6.8	15.8
Pulses and products (5.2)	0.37***	5.2	16.5
Sugar and confectionery (3.0)	0.17	3.0	9.8
Spices (5.5)	0.24**	4.7	4.0
Non-alcoholic beverages (2.7)	0.84***	4.9	2.4
Prepared meals, snacks, sweets etc. (12.1)	0.82***	7.5	3.3
Food and beverages	1.00	5.8	4.3

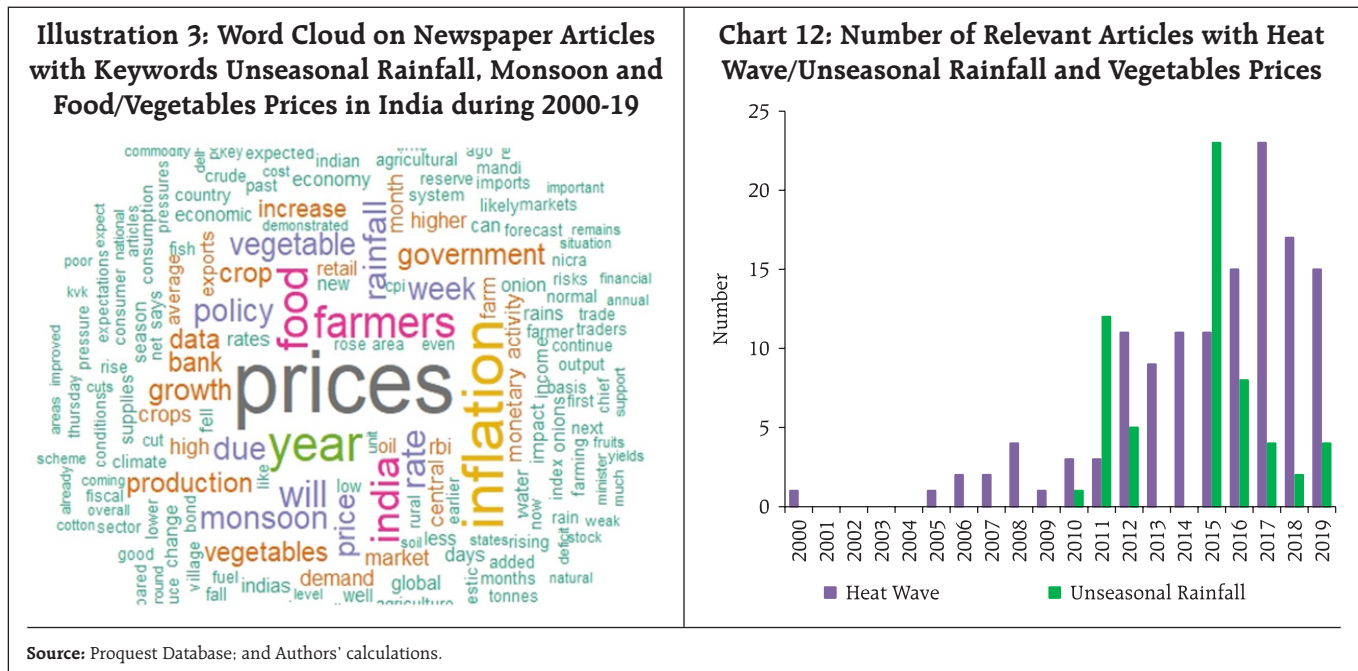
***, ** and * represent 1 per cent, 5 per cent and 10 per cent levels of significance, respectively.

Note: 1. Figures in parentheses indicate weight in CPI-Food and beverages.

2. Inflation volatility has been measured using standard deviation.

Source: NSO; and Authors' calculations.

⁵ Headline inflation is measured by year-on-year (y-o-y) changes in all-India CPI-Combined (Rural and Urban).

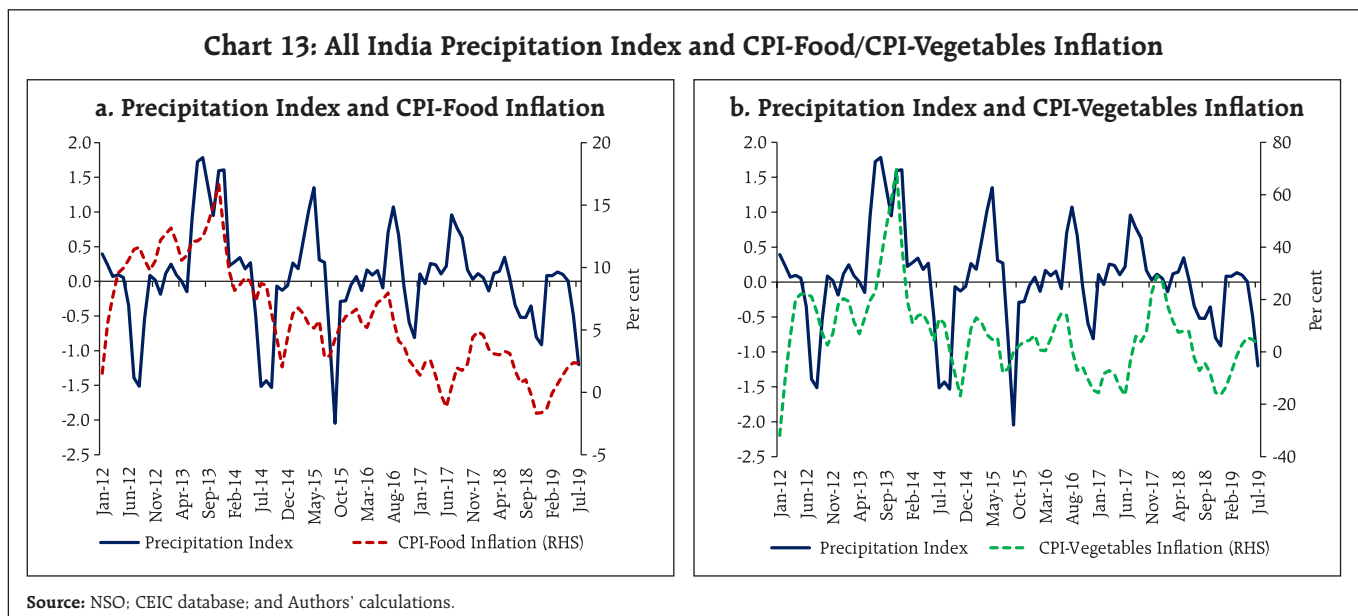


articles covering reports on food prices (especially prices of vegetables) being impacted by unseasonal rainfall and heat waves (Illustration 3 and Chart 12).

of vegetables inflation with precipitation index appears stronger.

Against this backdrop, we first look at plots of food inflation and vegetables inflation with all India precipitation index (Charts 13.a and 13.b). While food inflation reveals some association, the co-movement

Contemporaneous correlation between the precipitation index and food inflation and its various components show vegetables inflation having the highest correlation of 0.38 with the precipitation index (Table 3)⁶. Additionally, 12-months rolling



⁶ We could not find any statistically significant correlation between food inflation and temperature index.

Table 3: Correlation between Food Inflation, its Components and Precipitation Index

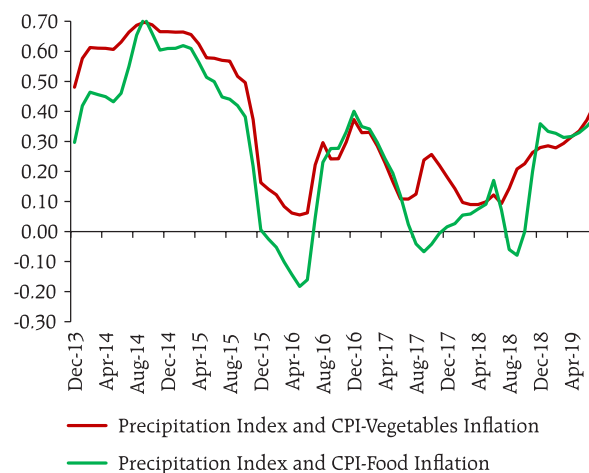
Components	Correlation Coefficient	P-value
Cereals and products	0.26	0.01***
Meat and fish	0.18	0.08*
Egg	0.10	0.37
Milk and products	0.02	0.82
Oils and fats	-0.18	0.08
Fruits	-0.04	0.67
Vegetables	0.38	0.00***
Pulses and products	-0.11	0.29
Sugar and confectionery	0.03	0.77
Spices	0.11	0.30
Non-alcoholic beverages	0.21	0.05**
Prepared meals, snacks, sweets etc.	0.16	0.13
Food and beverages	0.25	0.02**

***, ** and * represent 1 per cent, 5 per cent and 10 per cent levels of significance, respectively.

Source: NSO; CEIC database; and Authors' calculations.

correlation coefficients (starting from January 2012) depict periods when correlation between vegetables (food) inflation and precipitation index peaked at 0.70 (Chart 14).

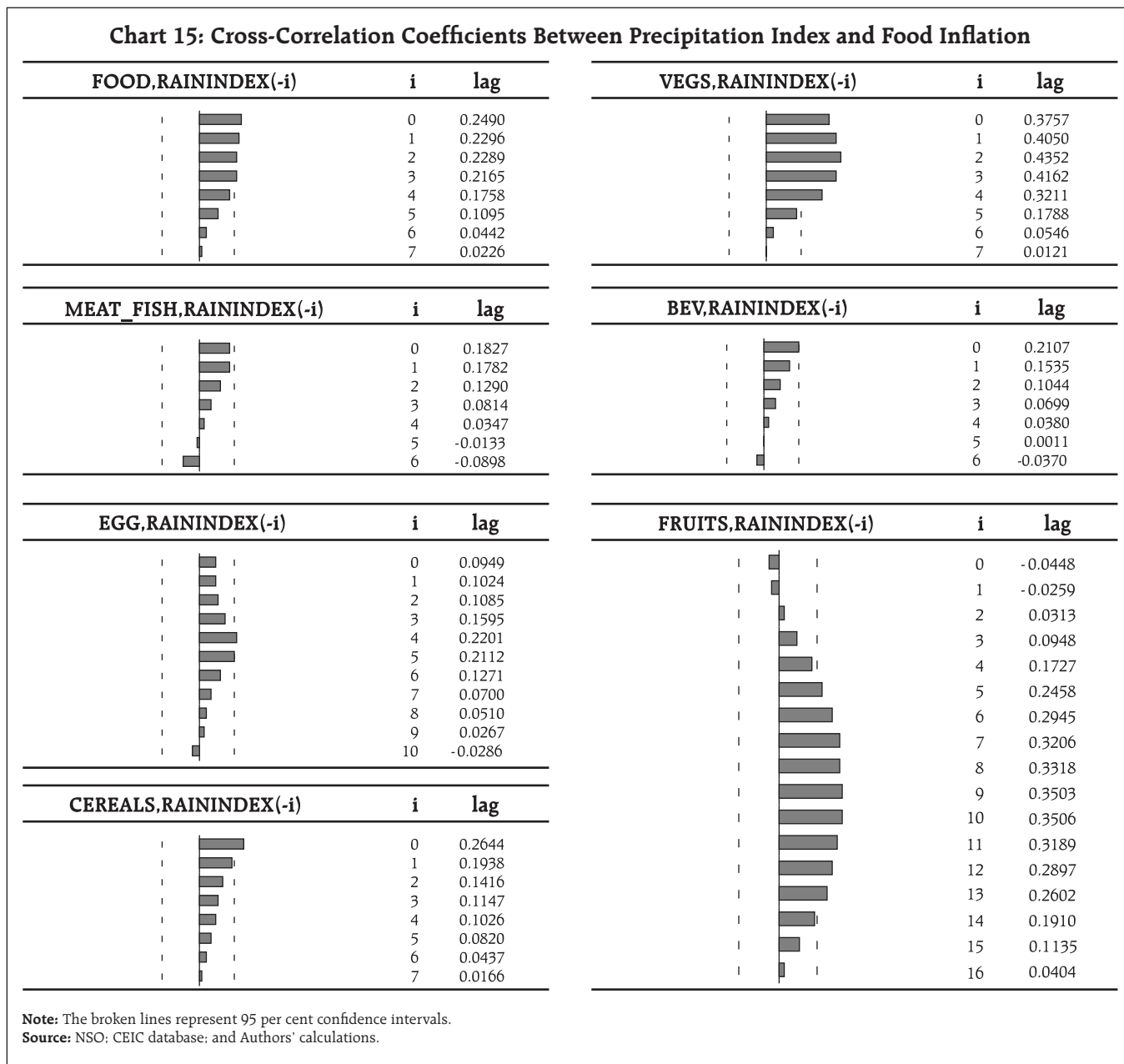
Furthermore, we look at the cross-correlation coefficients, which would capture not only the contemporaneous correlation but would also show the impact of rainfall with lag(s). This is because, in some food components, the impact of rainfall could appear with some time lag, while for others the impact of rain could last for some months. The results reveal that the impact of rainfall usually lasts for 5-6 months in the case of vegetables inflation as well as overall food inflation (Chart 15). Further, for vegetables, the extent of impact could increase with some lag. This is usually the case because vegetables are perishable in nature and the impact on prices is gradually reflected after crops are damaged and adverse supply shocks from the production centres spread across regions. For cereals, we do not find much of a lagged relationship between precipitation index and inflation, which could be primarily on account of cereals being non-perishables and the stabilising role of available buffer stocks/

Chart 14: Rolling Correlation Coefficients between Precipitation Index and CPI-Food/ Vegetables Inflation

Source: NSO; CEIC database; and Authors' calculations.

well-defined supply management system in place. Any contemporaneous correlation could be primarily driven by market sentiments amongst traders related to adverse rainfall pattern and crop sowing. For fruits, the precipitation index influences inflation with some lag, which could be because most of the fruits are seasonal and are not produced throughout the year. Therefore, if production is adversely impacted by unfavourable rainfall, the impact on prices is gradual and once affected, could last for a brief period.

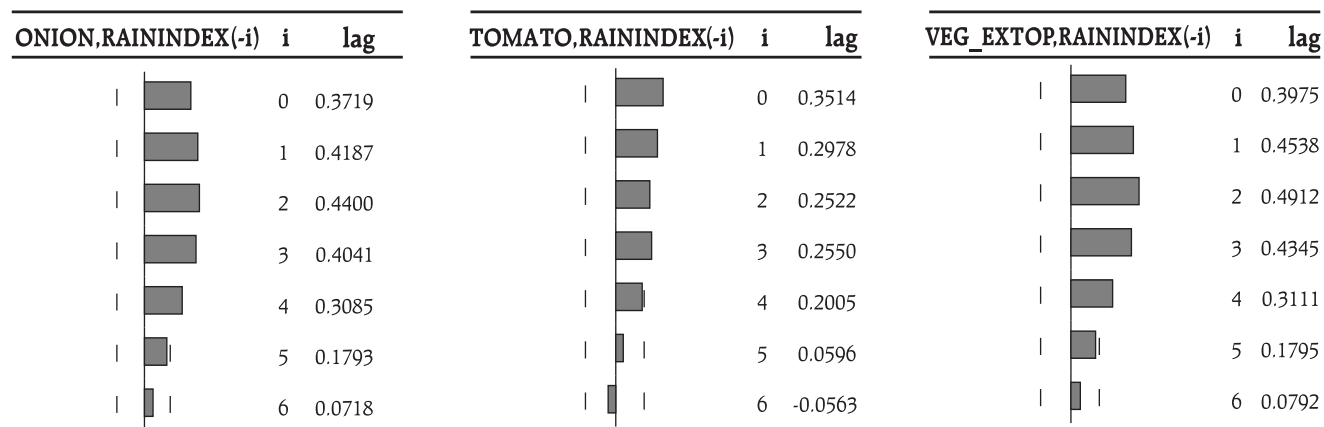
Since prices of vegetables are the most affected by rainfall disturbances, we look at the impact of precipitation index on vegetables prices at a disaggregated level. Within CPI-vegetables, tomato (weight: 9.5 per cent), onion (weight: 10.7 per cent) and potato (weight: 16.3 per cent) together constitute 36 per cent of the total share and the price movements of these three primary vegetables significantly determine overall vegetables inflation. Again, results based on cross-correlation analysis show precipitation index to have a strong and statistically significant impact on inflation in onions, tomatoes and vegetables excluding tomatoes, onions and potatoes (TOP),



with the impact continuing for 4-5 months (Chart 16). Potato inflation did not have any statistically significant association with the precipitation index.⁷ This could be due to the storable nature of potatoes and availability of storage facilities. Price pressures in vegetables, especially onions and tomatoes, were

⁷ Cross correlation coefficients between precipitation index and vegetables excluding tomato and onion were found to be significant in second and third lags, but with reduced magnitude. This possibly reflects a fairly larger influence of potato prices.

a major concern in 2019-20 owing to significant crop losses and supply disruptions on account of delayed monsoon withdrawal in October, and excessive/unseasonal post-monsoon rainfall leading to floods in major producing States like Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh. In the past too (specifically, during 2011, 2015, 2017 and 2018), there were episodes of unseasonal rainfall affecting vegetables prices, especially of onions and tomatoes (RBI, 2011; 2015; 2018).

Chart 16: Cross-Correlation Coefficients Between Precipitation Index and CPI-Vegetables Inflation

Note: The broken lines represent 95 per cent confidence intervals.
Source: NSO; CEIC database; and Authors' calculations.

IV.2. Impact on Economic Activity

In order to study the impact of climate change on economic activity, eight high-frequency economic indicators (the data for which are available on a monthly basis) have been used. The indicators have been selected in such a way that they track different sectors of the economy. These indicators include: Foreign Tourist Arrivals, Automobile Sales, Tractor Sales, Demand for Electricity, India's Total Trade, Purchasing Managers Index (PMI), Index of Industrial Production (IIP) and IIP-Manufacturing Food Products.

For the analysis, all variables are seasonally adjusted. Separate time-series regressions for each indicator are performed against the two weather indices as per the following equation:

$$\Delta \log Y_t = \alpha + \beta P_t + \gamma T_t + \epsilon_t^8$$

where, Y_t represents one of the eight economic indicators considered at time t , P_t is the precipitation

⁸ The model considered is not a very robust one as the objective is to study if the weather indices have an impact on the indicators of economic activity or not. However, collinearity amongst variables (using Variance Inflation Factor) and autocorrelation (using Durbin Watson statistic) are checked for. Low R-squared values were also observed in a similar analysis of the effect of temperature and snowfall on economic indicators in the US context (Bloesch and Gourio, 2015).

index at time t , T_t is the temperature index at time t and ϵ_t is the residual.

The results show that rainfall has a larger impact on the economy in comparison to the changes in temperature (Table 4). The negative signs for PMI in

Table 4: Regression Results⁹

Dependent Variable	Precipitation	Temperature	R-squared
Foreign Tourist Arrivals ¹⁰	0.007 (0.205)	0.002 (0.441)	0.016
Automobile Sales	0.015** (0.026)	0.002 (0.624)	0.043
Tractor Sales	0.020* (0.086)	0.007 (0.234)	0.030
Electricity Power: Demand	0.005 (0.192)	0.005*** (0.009)	0.061
Total Trade	-0.068** (0.048)	-0.045*** (0.012)	0.068
PMI	-0.019*** (0.0000)	-0.005** (0.049)	0.222
IIP	0.002 (0.441)	0.001 (0.429)	0.011
IIP: Mfg. Food Products ¹¹	-0.007 (0.267)	-0.005 (0.199)	0.026

***, ** and * represent 1 per cent, 5 per cent and 10 per cent levels of significance, respectively.

Note: Figures in parentheses denote p-values.

⁹ Results of the unit root tests are presented in Annex Table 4.

¹⁰ The lagged values of precipitation index negatively impacted the number of foreign tourist arrivals (and was found to be statistically significant). This is plausible as weather-related events in the country of visit would be closely monitored by prospective visitors.

¹¹ The analysis done after including lagged values of precipitation and temperature indices showed that temperature and rainfall departure were statistically significant and negatively impacted manufactured food production.

the case of both precipitation and temperature indices indicate that as the country gets warmer or when more than expected rains are received, the manufacturing and the service sectors tend to decelerate. The negative impact is observable for total trade as well. Further, as expected, increase in temperature causes the demand for electricity to increase as the requirement for air-conditioners, coolers and refrigerators tend to rise. Tractor sales are positively impacted by the rainfall received. Also, an increase in rainfall tends to accelerate automobile sales.

V. Mitigation of Climate Change Risks

Krogstrup and Oman (2019) provide a comprehensive review of the literature on the macroeconomic and financial policies that could be effective in mitigating climate change risks. They conclude that the fiscal tools are the first best options, but should be complemented by appropriate monetary policy instruments.

V.1. Fiscal Policy Tools

In April 2016, India officially signed the 2015 Paris climate agreement along with other 194 countries. As per the agreement, the increase in global average temperature should be held well below 2 degree Celsius above pre-industrial levels and efforts should be made to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degree Celsius.

According to Krogstrup and Oman (2019), fiscal policy tools can be classified into: (1) price policies (carbon taxation which will force firms and individuals to reduce emissions; and subsidies for mitigation actions); (2) spending and investment (outright public investments and concessional loans); and (3) public guarantees. The IMF's Fiscal Monitor (October 2019) discusses the use of other instruments in addition to the carbon taxation, which include Emission Trading Systems¹², Feebates¹³ and regulations for setting

¹² Firms are required to hold an allowance for each ton of their emissions and the government sets a cap on total emissions.

¹³ Imposition of fees on above-average emissions and rebates for below-emission rates.

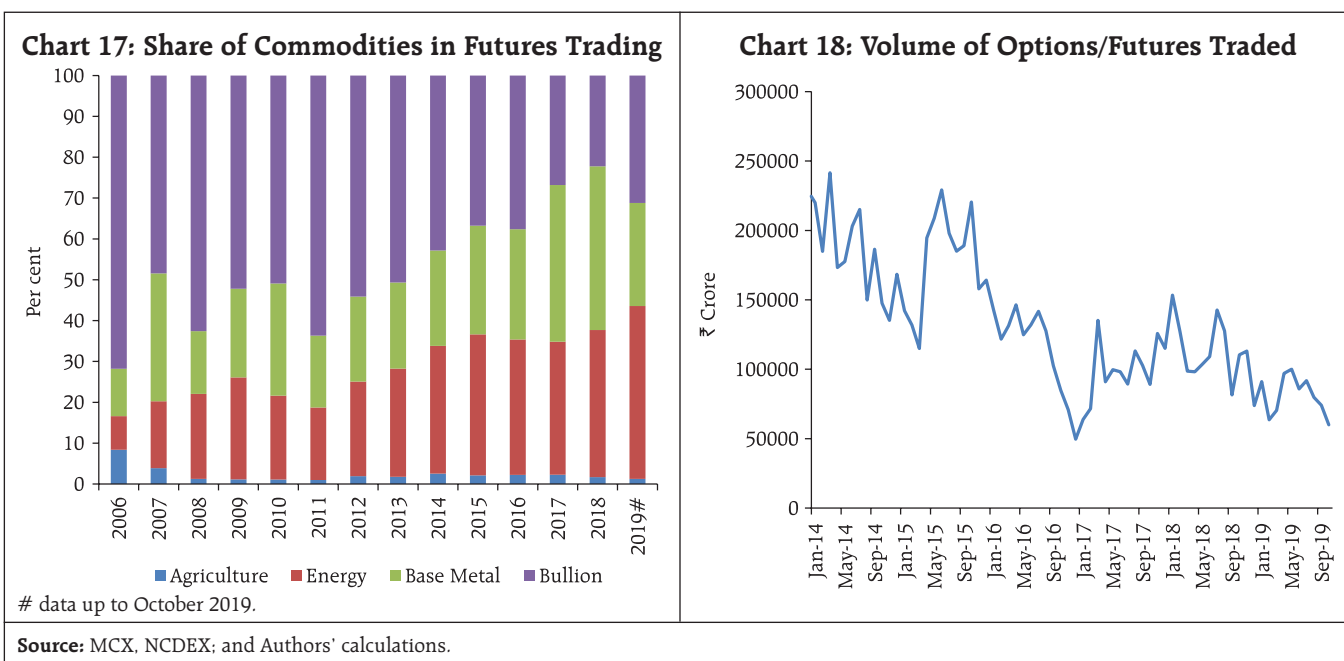
emission rate standards, or minimum requirements for the use of renewables in power generation. However, creation of awareness is the first step, which would be the prime responsibility of the governing bodies.

V.2. Commodity Derivatives Market

Currently, the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX) is the largest commodity futures exchange in India, followed by National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange (NCDEX). The commodities traded include metal, bullion, energy, spices, plantation, pulses, cereals, petrochemicals, oil and oil seeds.

Data reveal that futures trading in agricultural commodities is low and the share in total trade has declined in the recent past (Chart 17). Moreover, there has been a sharp decline in the volume of futures/options traded at NCDEX, which is the largest farm futures exchange (Chart 18). Considering the impact of climate change on the economy, a developed commodity derivatives market can help mitigate risks by enabling continuous price discovery and providing a strategy for hedging price risk in the face of uncertainty.

Weather derivatives may be viewed as '*financial instruments whose value and/or cash flows depend on the occurrence of weather related events, which can be identified and measured easily and can serve as underlyings of financial contracts*' (Barrieu and Scaillet, 2009; Considine, 2000). Weather derivatives which were introduced in the US and Europe in 1997 and 1998, respectively have become increasingly popular. The markets have grown tremendously in the US and Europe and have expanded to the over the counter (OTC) markets. The Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) has introduced weather derivatives that can be traded electronically on the CME's GLOBEX platform. The popular contracts are the month futures (swap) contracts based on heating degree days (HDD), which measure how much heating is required in winter; and



cooling degree days (CDD), which measure how much cooling is necessary in summer months, along with options on futures (Schlenker and Taylor, 2019).

Insurance is normally used to cover the loss due to the occurrence of low-probability, high-risk events. But in the case of weather derivatives, the underlying event need not be necessarily catastrophic and are best suited for high-probability, low-risk events. Considering the climate change patterns witnessed in the country, introduction and popularisation of weather derivatives have become the need of the hour.

The challenges in introducing weather derivatives include design issues, choice of appropriate pricing rules, and choice of underlying assets. A pilot run using an appropriate index for rainfall may be conducted in order to explore its significance and feasibility in mitigating risks from unseasonal rainfalls.

V.3. Central Banking Tools

Central banks would require to monitor two types of risks: physical risks and transition risks (Batten *et al.*, 2016). While physical risks would include damage

of balance sheets of households, corporates, banks and insurers triggered by a weather-related event causing financial and macroeconomic instability, transition risks would include the after-effects of the implementation of fiscal policy tools, which could lead to re-pricing of carbon-intensive assets and also trigger negative supply shocks.

As per the Central Bank's Survey on Climate Change for 2019, 64 per cent respondents described climate change as a significant concern. Eight central banks and supervisors established the Central Banks and Supervisors Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS) in 2017, which is concerned with the analysis and management of risks in the financial sector¹⁴. The NGFS provides six recommendations (for central banks, supervisors, policymakers and financial institutions) including integration of climate-related factors into prudential supervision and emphasises the importance of a robust and internationally consistent climate and environmental disclosure framework [NGFS (2019)].

¹⁴ NGFS has expanded tremendously and presently has 48 members comprising central banks from across the globe.

A quick review of suggestions offered by Krogstrup and Oman (2019), Batten *et al.*, (2016), Silva (2019) and the Central Banking Focus Report would indicate the important measures that can be examined by central banks for adoption to mitigate risks from climate change:

1. Provide support to activities/initiatives targeting green finance (like the NGFS).
2. Include climate risks in the analytical models used in policy formulation and research and perform scenario analysis and stress testing to understand areas where actions would be required.
3. Bridge gaps on data related to various environmental aspects of finance.
4. As a part of its reserve management, central banks can invest in green assets rather than in brown assets like carbon-intensive assets.
5. Provide additional/subsidised liquidity support to banks that invest in environment-friendly products.
6. Incentivise banks towards green projects by redesigning capital and collateral rules.
7. Encourage regulated/supervised entities (banks) to allocate at least a certain minimum credit to environment-friendly sectors.

VI. Conclusion

Climatic conditions, comprising the two key indicators - precipitation and temperature, play

a crucial role in the overall health of the Indian economy. Over the years, India has witnessed changes in climatic patterns in line with the rest of the world. With increase in population and economic activity, the cumulative level of GHG emissions has increased causing the average temperature to rise over time. Importantly, the rainfall pattern, particularly with respect to the SWM, which provides around 75 per cent of the annual rainfall, has undergone significant changes. Moreover, the occurrence of extreme weather events like floods/unseasonal rainfall, heat waves and cyclones has increased during the past two decades and data reveal that some of the key agricultural States in India have been the most affected by such events.

Two separate indices were constructed at the all-India level – the temperature index and the precipitation index – and their impact on food inflation and economic activity indicators was analysed. The results indicated weather conditions, especially rainfall, to have a strong influence on the food inflation trajectory and the impact was found to last for a couple of months. Within food, vegetables prices are the most vulnerable to rainfall shocks. The results also showed weather conditions to have a significant impact on some of the key indicators of economic activity like PMI, IIP, demand for electricity, trade, tourist arrivals, and tractor and automobile sales. This article also highlighted various policy tools that could help mitigate climate change risks.

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Type of shock/impact		Physical Risks		Transition Risks
		From extreme weather events	From gradual global warming	
Demand	Investment	Uncertainty about climate events		'Crowding out' from climate policies
	Consumption	Increased risk of flooding to residential property		'Crowding out' from climate policies
	Trade	Disruption to import / export flows due to natural disasters		Distortions from asymmetric climate policies
	Labour supply	Loss of hours worked due to natural disasters	Loss of hours worked due to extreme heat	
	Energy, food and other inputs	Food and other input shortages		Risks to energy supply
Supply	Capital stock	Damage due to extreme weather	Diversion of resources from productive investment to adaptation capital	Diversion of resources from productive investment to mitigation activities
	Technology	Diversion of resources from innovation to reconstruction and replacement	Diversion of resources from innovation to adaptation capital	Uncertainty about the rate of innovation and adoption of clean energy technologies

Source: Batten (2018).

Null Hypothesis	P-value
GDP per capita does not Granger Cause CO ₂ Emissions per capita	0.008
CO ₂ Emissions per capita does not Granger Cause GDP per capita	0.392
Temperature does not Granger Cause CO ₂ Emissions per capita	0.983
CO ₂ Emissions per capita does not Granger Cause Temperature	0.000
Temperature does not Granger Cause GDP per capita	0.085
GDP per capita does not Granger Cause Temperature	0.000

Null Hypothesis	P-value
Agriculture yield does not Granger Cause Rainfall	0.162
Rainfall does not Granger Cause Agriculture yield	0.000
Gross Irrigated Area does not Granger Cause Rainfall	0.168
Rainfall does not Granger Cause Gross Irrigated Area	0.000
Gross Irrigated Area does not Granger Cause Agriculture yield	0.001
Agriculture yield does not Granger Cause Gross Irrigated Area	0.481

Annex Table 3: CPI Headline Inflation and Its Major Components								
Components	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (Apr.-Sep.)
Food and beverages (45.86)	11.2	11.9	6.5	5.1	4.4	2.2	0.7	2.6
Fuel and light (6.84)	9.7	7.7	4.2	5.3	3.3	6.2	5.7	0.5
Excluding food and fuel (47.30)	9.0	7.2	5.4	4.6	4.8	4.6	5.8	3.3
All Groups	10.0	9.4	5.8	4.9	4.5	3.6	3.4	4.3

Note: Figures in parentheses indicate weight in CPI-Combined.

Source: NSO; and Authors' calculations.

Annex Table 4: Results of the Unit Root Tests				
Variables	Augmented Dickey Fuller Test Statistic		Phillips-Perron Test Statistic	
	X	ΔX	X	ΔX
Foreign Tourist Arrivals	-0.182	-9.727***	-0.387	-29.786***
Automobile Sales	-1.910	-13.367***	-2.287	-14.592***
Tractor Sales	-3.016	-9.311***	-2.660	-16.058***
Electricity Power: Demand	-0.325	-15.339***	-0.323	-17.275***
Total Trade	-2.093	-22.254***	-1.957	-19.867***
IIP	0.333	-10.567***	0.480	-25.973***
IIP: Mfg. Food Products	-0.089	-10.629***	-0.162	-25.561***
PMI	-4.695***	-	-4.640***	-

***, ** and * represent 1 per cent, 5 per cent and 10 per cent levels of significance, respectively.

Source: NSO; and Authors' calculations.

*Union Budget 2020-21 – An Assessment**

The Union Budget 2020-21 aimed at energising the Indian economy through a combination of short-term, medium-term and long-term measures. It walked a tight rope, balancing the need for providing counter-cyclical support to growth, while adhering to fiscal discipline. The Union Budget 2020-21 introduced tax reforms that aim to stimulate growth, simplify the tax structure, ease compliance and reduce litigations. The budget also avoided cutting down capital expenditure to meet the fiscal deficit target, which is laudable.

Introduction

The Union Budget 2020-21 walked a tight rope, balancing the dual imperatives of providing counter-cyclical support to growth and adhering to Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act - prescribed fiscal deficit target. It adhered to fiscal prudence, given shortfalls in the tax collections, within the FRBM escape clause, while striving to maintain the quality of expenditure. The step-up in allocations to various sectors, such as agriculture, irrigation, rural development, education, skill upgradation, industry, commerce, investment, infrastructure, digital economy, environment and climate change, is sought to be financed mainly by non-tax revenue and disinvestment. Against this background, the rest of the article is divided into seven sections. Section II discusses the gross fiscal deficit and the underlying fiscal arithmetic, while Section III examines the receipt side of central government finances. Section IV deals with government spending and Section V highlights financing pattern of gross fiscal deficit. Section VI reflects upon outstanding

* Prepared by Kaushiki Singh, Saksham Sood, Rahul Agarwal and Anshuman Kamila under the guidance of Samir Ranjan Behera of the Department of Economic and Policy Research, Reserve Bank of India. Data support from Archana Verma is acknowledged. The views expressed are of the authors and do not pertain to the institution they belong to. Usual disclaimers apply. The previous article on Union Budget 2019-20 was published in the Reserve Bank of India Bulletin, September 2019.

liabilities of the government and Section VII presents an analysis of resource transfers from the Centre to states. Section VIII sets out concluding observations. Annex 1 lists the detailed sector-wise measures laid out in the Budget.

II. Fiscal Deficit

As against the budgeted gross fiscal deficit (GFD) of 3.3 per cent of GDP for 2019-20, the revised estimates placed the GFD at 3.75 per cent of GDP¹. A similar overshoot, *i.e.*, of 0.5 per cent of GDP, has also been budgeted for 2020-21, invoking the provisions under section 4(3) of the revised FRBM Act.² The deterioration in the GFD in 2019-20 was primarily caused by a decline of 1.1 per cent of GDP in tax revenues even as non-tax revenues have provided some cushion. For 2020-21 the projected deviation from FRBM target is on account of maintaining expenditure trajectories, both revenue and capital, so as to stimulate domestic economic activity while pegging tax revenues to more realistic levels (Table 1).

The Union Budget and Underlying Arithmetic

The year 2019-20 witnessed a sharp deceleration in nominal GDP growth rate (between budgeted and revised estimates) which was sharper than even what was observed in 2008-09, the year of the global financial crisis (Chart 1).

¹ Going by the principle of using latest estimates of GDP for any given year, we have used First Revised Estimates of GDP for 2018-19 and Second Advance Estimates of GDP for 2019-20 in this article, due to which certain ratios to GDP for these two years may vary from those published in the Union Budget. For instance, the GFD-GDP ratio for 2019-20 (RE), based on the First Advance Estimate of nominal GDP (₹204.4 lakh crore) used in the Union Budget, stands at 3.75 per cent. However, based on the Second Advance Estimates (₹203.8 lakh crore), which were released subsequently, the GFD-GDP ratio for 2019-20 (RE) stands at 3.76 per cent.

² Gross fiscal deficit may be allowed to deviate by not more than one-half percent of GDP in a year under specific conditions, as specified under Section 4(2) of the revised FRBM Act, *viz.*, on ground or grounds of national security, act of war, national calamity, collapse of agriculture severely affecting farm output and incomes, structural reforms in the economy with unanticipated fiscal implications, decline in real output growth of a quarter by at least three per cent points below its average of the previous four quarters. Source: Finance Act, 2018.

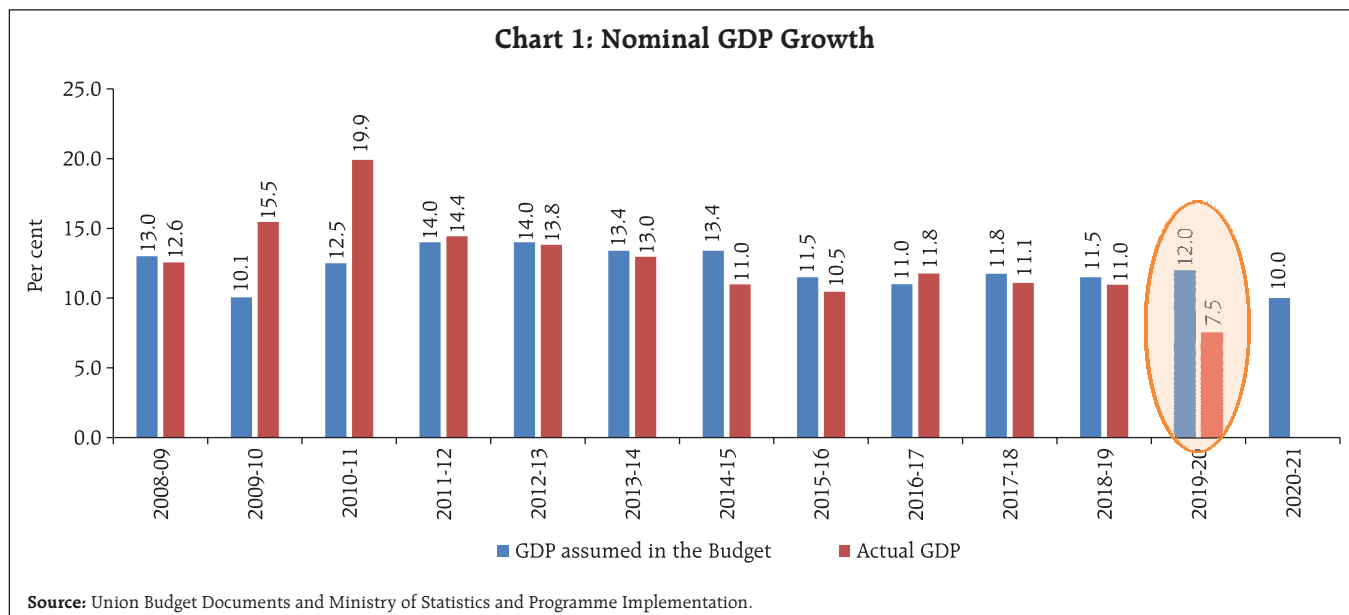


Table 1: Key Fiscal Indicators

(Per cent of GDP)

	2018-19	2019-20		2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
	Actuals	BE	RE	BE	Projections	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Fiscal Deficit	3.4	3.3	3.8	3.5	3.3	3.1
2. Revenue Deficit	2.4	2.3	2.5	2.7	2.3	1.9
3. Primary Deficit	0.4	0.2	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.0
4. Tax Revenue	11.0	11.7	10.6	10.8	10.7	10.7
5. Non-Tax Revenue	1.2	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.5
6. Revenue Expenditure	10.6	11.6	11.5	11.7	-	-
7. Capital Expenditure	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.8	-	-

Source: Union Budget 2020-21.

A slowdown in GDP growth can impact the GFD-GDP ratio in two ways: (i) automatic stabilisers come into play as tax revenues fall but the expenditure trajectory is maintained, thereby pushing up the numerator; and (ii) the denominator is lower than budgeted due to less than projected nominal growth in GDP. Adjusting for these two effects, the cyclically adjusted GFD works out to 3.5 per cent³, lower by 25

³ Fedelino Annalisa, Mark Horton, and Anna Ivanova (2009), "Computing Cyclically-Adjusted Balances and Automatic Stabilizers", Technical Notes and Manuals, Fiscal Affairs Department, International Monetary Fund, December.

basis points than the revised estimate of 3.75 per cent in 2019-20, of which 12 basis points is due to the direct impact of lower GDP growth on the denominator (Chart 2).

Decomposition of GFD

The revenue deficit is likely to pre-empt almost 76.5 per cent of the GFD in 2020-21, reversing the

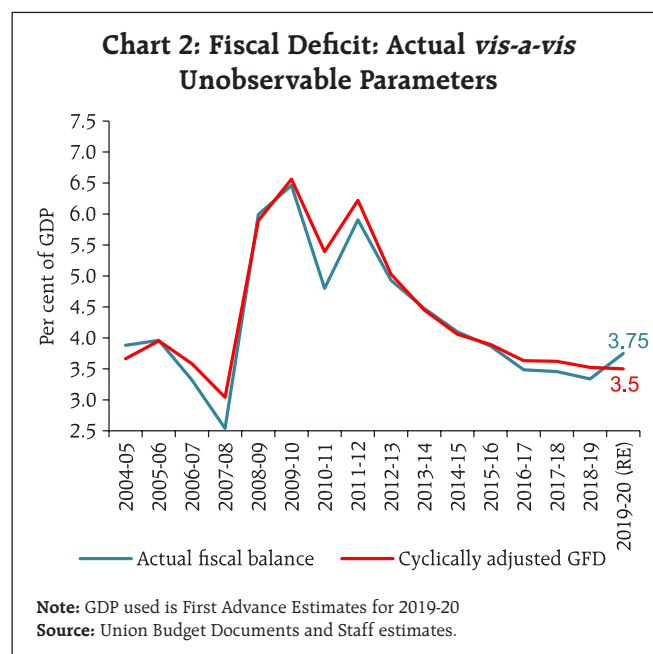


Table 2: Decomposition of GFD

(Per cent)

	2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		2020-21
	BE	Actual	BE	Actual	BE	RE	BE
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1. Revenue Deficit	58.8	75.1	66.6	70.0	68.9	65.1	76.5
2. Capital Outlay	49.4	41.5	44.6	43.0	44.2	41.9	47.8
3. Net Lending	5.1	0.4	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.4	2.1
4. Disinvestment (minus)	13.3	16.9	12.8	14.6	14.9	8.5	26.4

Source: Union Budget Documents.

improvement that was secured in 2018-19 and 2019-20. Importantly, however, capital expenditure is budgeted to post a sharp increase, likely to be funded primarily by higher disinvestments (Table 2).

III. Receipts

Total receipts, comprising net tax and non-tax revenues along with non-debt capital receipts, were 9.5 per cent of GDP in the Revised Estimates (RE) for 2019-20, falling short of the budgeted 9.9 per cent of GDP on account of lower realisations of tax revenue (7.4 per cent of GDP in RE as against 7.8 per cent in the Budget Estimates (BE)). Non-tax revenues held up well and even exceeded the BE modestly.

Tax Revenues

The gross tax revenue to GDP ratio is expected to reach 10.8 per cent in 2020-21 (10.6 per cent of GDP in 2019-20) on the back of higher budgeted buoyancies for all tax categories except personal income tax – on account of tax rate adjustments in favour of middle income brackets – and union excise duty. Notably, the envisaged buoyancies are also higher than their trend levels (proxied by 2011-18 averages) in respect of all taxes except excise duties (Table 3).

Direct Taxes

Direct taxes are budgeted to grow by 12.7 per cent in 2020-21 after a subdued 2.9 per cent growth recorded in 2019-20 (RE) (Table 4). Rationalisation of income tax rates across income groups and simplification in compliance is envisaged, which will result in

Table 3: Tax Buoyancy

	Average Tax Buoyancy (2010-11 to 2017-18)	2018-19	2019-20 (BE)	2019-20 (RE)	2020-21 (BE)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Gross Tax Revenue	1.15	0.77	1.63	0.54	1.16
2. Direct Taxes	1.00	1.23	1.56	0.39	1.23
(i) Corporation Tax	0.84	1.48	1.38	-1.07	1.12
(ii) Income Tax	1.20	1.19	1.83	2.49	1.38
3. Indirect taxes	1.37	0.27	1.72	0.70	1.08
(i) GST	-	2.87	1.25	0.71	1.24
(ii) Customs Duty	0.47	-0.79	2.88	0.82	1.01
(iii) Union Excise	1.17	-0.97	2.61	0.93	0.74

Note: '-': Not applicable. Tax buoyancy is defined as the responsiveness of tax revenue to changes in nominal GDP.

Source: Staff calculations based on Union Budget Documents for various years.

₹40,000 crore of revenue foregone. In addition, the removal of the dividend distribution tax will imply revenue losses of ₹25,000 crore. These losses to the exchequer need to be balanced against potential gain in tax buoyancy due to increased compliance and the enhanced attractiveness of India as an investment destination. Furthermore, tax concessions for start-ups, foreign investments, electricity generation companies, cooperatives, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and affordable housing are likely to brighten the investment environment (details of the tax proposals in Annex I). Moreover, a simplified income tax architecture entails benefits for the middle class. The combined stimulus on account of the rationalisation of income tax and corporate tax rates (as announced earlier in 2019) amounts to around 0.7 per cent of GDP.

Table 4: Tax Revenue of Central Government

	₹ thousand crore				Per cent of GDP			Growth Rate (per cent)		
	2018-19	2019-20 (BE)	2019-20 (RE)	2020-21 (BE)	2019-20 (BE)	2019-20 (RE)	2020-21 (BE)	2019-20 (BE)	2019-20 (RE)	2020-21 (BE)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1. Direct tax	1136.6	1335.0	1170.0	1319.0	6.3	5.7	5.9	17.5	2.9	12.7
<i>of which:</i>										
i. Income tax	461.5	556.2	547.0	625.0	2.6	2.7	2.8	20.5	18.5	14.3
ii. Corporation tax	663.6	766.0	610.5	681.0	3.6	3.0	3.0	15.4	-8.0	11.5
2. Indirect tax	943.9	1126.2	993.4	1104.0	5.3	4.9	4.9	19.3	5.3	11.1
<i>of which:</i>										
i. GST	581.6	663.3	612.3	690.5	3.1	3.0	3.1	14.1	5.3	12.8
CGST	457.5	526.0	514.0	580.0	2.5	2.5	2.6	15.0	12.3	12.8
IGST	28.9	28.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	-3.3	-	-
Compensation Cess	95.1	109.3	98.3	110.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	15.0	3.4	12.4
ii. Customs	117.8	155.9	125.0	138.0	0.7	0.6	0.6	32.3	6.1	10.4
iii. Excise	232.0	300.0	248.0	267.0	1.4	1.2	1.2	29.3	6.9	7.7
3. Gross Tax Revenue (1+2)	2080.5	2461.2	2163.4	2423.0	11.7	10.6	10.8	18.3	4.0	12.0

Source: Union Budget Documents.

Indirect Taxes

Indirect tax collections in 2019-20 (RE) fell short by ₹1.3 lakh crore from the budget estimates due to shortfall in all its components. Indirect taxes are budgeted to grow by 11.1 per cent during 2020-21, with GST collections budgeted at ₹6.9 lakh crore - an increase of 12.8 per cent. The rationalisation of GST rates over the period is estimated to provide a stimulus of around ₹1.0 lakh crore. A step towards removal of bottlenecks associated with GST will further strengthen and streamline GST collections, going forward. On customs duty, the emphasis is on

the containment of dumping of imports under various Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) that are harmful to domestic industry, especially labour-intensive MSMEs and sectors notified under Make in India.

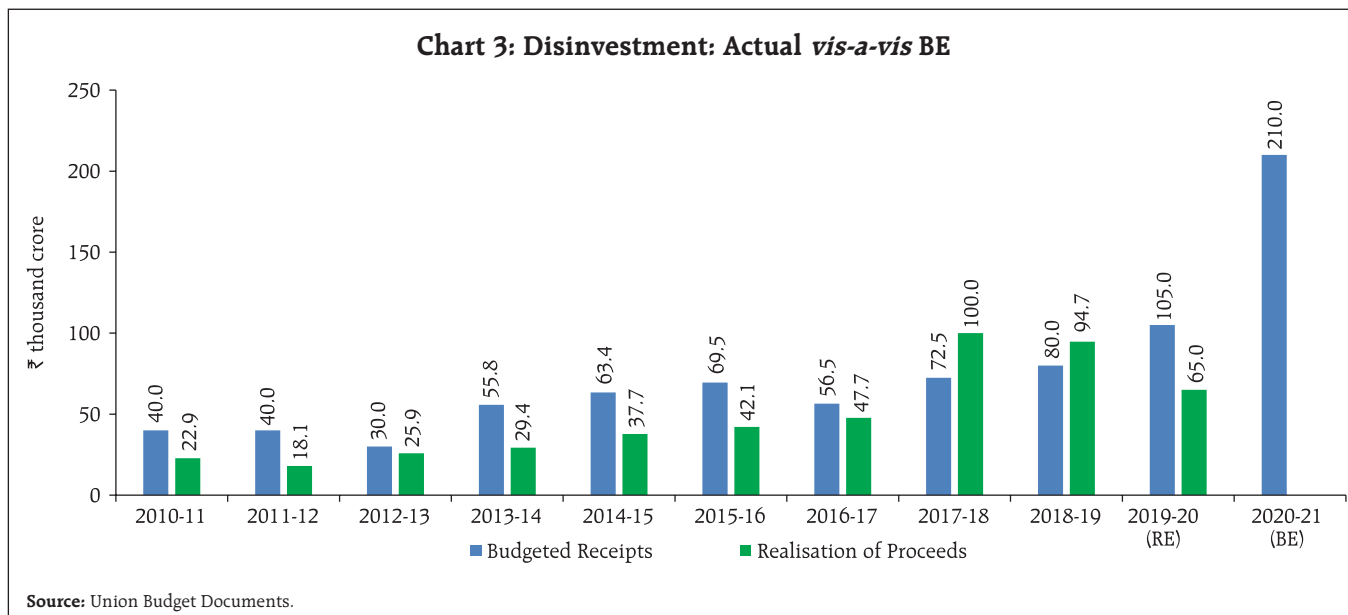
Non-Tax Revenues

Receipts from non-tax revenues are budgeted to increase in 2020-21 by 11.4 per cent. Dividend and profits from public sector enterprises (including PSU banks) and surplus transfer from the RBI, which were higher than the budgeted amount by 22.2 per cent during 2019-20 (RE), are budgeted to decrease in 2020-21 (BE) (Table 5).

Table 5: Non-Tax Revenue

	₹ thousand crore				Growth Rate (per cent)			
	2018-19	2019-20 (BE)	2019-20 (RE)	2020-21 (BE)	2018-19	2019-20 (BE)	2019-20 (RE)	2020-21 (BE)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Total Non-Tax Revenue	235.7	313.2	345.5	385.0	22.3	32.9	46.6	11.4
<i>Of which</i>								
Dividend and Profits	113.4	163.5	199.9	155.4	24.1	44.2	76.2	-22.3
From PSEs	43.1	57.5	48.3	65.7	-7.4	33.5	12.1	36.2
From RBI/Banks/FIs	70.4	106.0	151.6	89.6	56.9	50.7	115.5	-40.9

Source: Union Budget Documents for various years.



Non-debt Capital Receipts

The target for disinvestment has been pegged at an all-time high of ₹2.1 lakh crore in 2020-21 (BE). In 2019-20 (RE), disinvestment proceeds fell short by 38 percent vis-a-vis the target of ₹1.05 lakh crore (Chart 3). In a historical perspective, shortfalls vis-à-vis budgeted targets in respect of disinvestment have

occurred in eight out of last ten years, with 2017-18 and 2018-19 being the notable exceptions. Moreover, it is noteworthy to realise the growing importance of Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) in disinvestment (Box I). Recoveries of loans and advances are budgeted to decline in 2020-21 (BE) by 9.9 per cent over 2019-20 (RE).

Box I: Disinvestment through Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs)

ETFs are bundles of securities that are traded, like individual stocks, on an exchange. Contrary to regular mutual funds, ETFs can be bought and sold throughout the trading day like any stock. ETFs usually track different asset classes, such as government bonds and corporate bonds, commodities including crude oil or gold, foreign currencies such as the Euro or Canadian dollar.

For investors, ETFs are favoured investment avenues because (i) they are cost efficient (they don't use services of star fund managers; in India, most ETFs charge annual expenses of 0.05 to 1 per cent of their Net Asset Value (NAV) whereas actively managed funds charge 2.5-3.25 per cent a year and Open-end index funds levy 0.20-2 per cent a year) (Prashanta and Raj, 2015); (ii) they enable investors to benefit from more informed security selection by the fund manager, while also offering them a diversified investment portfolio; (iii) they offer high liquidity through

the exchanges; (iv) they are simple and convenient to buy/sell, given the initial investment is low.

In recent years, Government of India has been pursuing the issue of ETFs as part of its broader disinvestment programme. The two ETFs launched under this initiative are: (a) CPSE ETF – which tracks shares of 11 Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) – Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), Coal India, Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), Power Finance Corporation (PFC), Bharat Electronics, Oil India, NBCC India, NLC India and SJVN; and (b) Bharat-22 ETF – comprising National Aluminium Company (NALCO), ONGC, IOC, Bharat Petroleum, Coal India, State Bank of India (SBI), Axis Bank, Bank of Baroda, REC, PFC, Indian Bank, ITC, Larsen & Toubro, Bharat Electronics, Engineers

(Contd...)

India Limited, NBCC, Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd (PGCIL), NTPC, Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL), National Hydro Power Corporation (NHPC), NLC, SJVN.

Details of disinvestment achieved through ETFs starting from 2013-14 are as follows:

Table I.1: Share of ETFs in Disinvestment

(₹ crore)

Fiscal Year	ETFs			Total Disinvestment	Share of ETF in total disinvestment (per cent)
	CPSE ETF	Bharat 22 ETF	Total		
1	2	3	4	5	6
2013-14	3,000	0	3,000	29,368	10.2
2014-15	0	0	0	37,737	0.0
2015-16	0	0	0	42,132	0.0
2016-17	8,500	0	8,500	47,743	17.8
2017-18	0	14,500	14,500	1,00,045	14.5
2018-19	26,350	18,730	45,080	94,727	47.6
2019-20	26,500*	4,369*	30,869*	65,000	47.5

Note: * Data for 2019-20 is till February 24, 2020. Data in Column (5) is from Union Budget Documents.

Source: Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM), Union Budget Documents.

Proceeds from the ETF route have formed an increasing portion of the aggregate disinvestment collections, as evident from Table I.1. In line with the disinvestment policy of the Government of India (as outlined by Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM)) – namely, to promote public ownership of CPSEs – ETFs have emerged as the preferred vehicle for disinvestment by the government.

Strategic disinvestment is an alternative mode of disinvestment. It implies the sale of substantial portion of the Government share-holding of a CPSE of up to 50 per cent, or even higher as may be determined, along with transfer of management control. During the time period since 2013-14, the government mobilised ₹10,779 crore in 2016-17, ₹42,469 crore in 2017-18 and ₹15,914 crore in 2018-19 through this route – accounting for 22.6 per cent, 42.5 per cent and 16.8 per cent of aggregate disinvestment proceeds, respectively.

Reference:

Prashanta, A. and Raj, K.K. (2015), "ETF *vis-a-vis* Index Funds: An Evaluation", *Asia Pacific Journal of Research in Business Management*, Vol 20(1).

IV. Expenditure Pattern and Priorities

Total expenditure is budgeted to grow by 12.7 per cent in 2020-21, lower than the rate of increase witnessed in 2019-20 (RE). Noteworthy from the point of view of reviving investment and growth is that capital expenditure is budgeted to grow by 18.1 percent, which is higher than the historical average of post-FRBM period (2004-05 to 2018-19) (Table 6). By contrast, revenue expenditure growth is projected to be moderate (relative to 2004-05 to 2018-19) which is indicative of the commitment of the government to improve the quality of expenditure as capital expenditure has higher multiplier effect than revenue expenditure (RBI, 2019)⁴.

Subsidies and Interest Payments

Expenditure on subsidies and interest payments is budgeted to come down to 37.8 per cent of revenue expenditure in 2019-20 (RE) and further to 36.9 per

Table 6: Expenditure of Central Government

Item	₹ thousand crore			Growth rate (per cent)	
	2018-19	2019-20 (RE)	2020-21 (BE)	2019-20 (RE)	2020-21 (BE)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Total Expenditure	2,315	2,699	3,042	16.6	12.7
2. Revenue Expenditure (of which)	2,007	2,350	2,630	17.0	11.9
(i) Interest Payments	583	625	708	7.3	13.3
(ii) Major Subsidies	197	227	228	15.5	0.2
Food	101	109	116	7.3	6.3
Fertiliser	71	80	71	13.3	-10.9
Petroleum	25	39	41	55.3	6.1
(iii) MGNREGA	62	71	62	14.9	-13.4
(iv) PM-KISAN	1	54	75	-	37.9
(v) Defence (Revenue)	196	206	209	5.3	1.7
3. Capital Expenditure	308	349	412	13.4	18.1

Source: Union Budget Documents.

cent in 2020-21 (BE), which is its lowest level in the last twenty years. In 2019-20, interest payments declined from ₹6.60 lakh crore in BE to ₹6.25 lakh crore in RE, which may be reflective of the lower interest rate environment that prevailed during the year. Outgoes on account of subsidies also declined from 1.6 per

⁴ Reserve Bank of India (2019), "Estimable Fiscal Multipliers for India", Box III.1, Chapter III – Demand and Output, Monetary Policy Report, April.

Table 7: Expenditure on Major Government Schemes

Item	₹ thousand crore				Per cent of Total Expenditure		Growth Rate (per cent)	
	2018-19	2019-20 (BE)	2019-20 (RE)	2020-21 (BE)	2019-20 (RE)	2020-21 (BE)	2019-20 (RE)	2020-21 (BE)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
A. Central Sector Schemes								
1. PM-KISAN	1	75	54	75	2.0	2.5	-	37.9
2. Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan	0	1	0	1	0.0	0.0	-	-
3. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana	4	4	4	5	0.2	0.1	7.0	10.7
4. Ujjwala Yojana	3	3	4	1	0.1	0.0	16.4	-70.0
5. Road Works	38	46	46	49	1.7	1.6	21.4	6.3
6. Sagarmala	0	1	0	0	0.0	0.0	5.8	-22.0
7. National River Conservation Programme	2	1	1	1	0.0	0.0	-25.9	-30.0
B. Centrally Sponsored Schemes								
1. MGNREGA	62	60	71	62	2.6	2.0	14.9	-13.4
2. Ayushman Bharat (PMJAY)	2	7	3	6	0.1	0.2	49.0	94.0
3. PM Krishi Sinchayi Yojana	8	10	8	11	0.3	0.4	-3.0	40.9
4. PM Gram Sadak Yojana	15	19	14	20	0.5	0.6	-8.7	38.6
5. PM Awas Yojana	25	26	25	28	0.9	0.9	-0.4	8.6
6. Swachh Bharat Mission	15	13	10	12	0.4	0.4	-37.3	27.6
7. National Health Mission	32	34	34	34	1.3	1.1	8.9	-0.5
8. National Education Mission	31	39	38	39	1.4	1.3	22.2	4.0

Source: Union Budget Documents.

cent of GDP in 2019-20 (BE) to 1.3 per cent in 2019-20 (RE) and has been budgeted even lower at 1.2 per cent in 2020-21 (BE). However, this has primarily been achieved by slashing on-budget expenditure on food subsidy from 0.9 per cent budgeted to 0.5 per cent of GDP in both 2019-20 (RE) as well as 2020-21 (BE). Despite this huge retrenchment, food subsidy continues to dominate the overall subsidy bill.

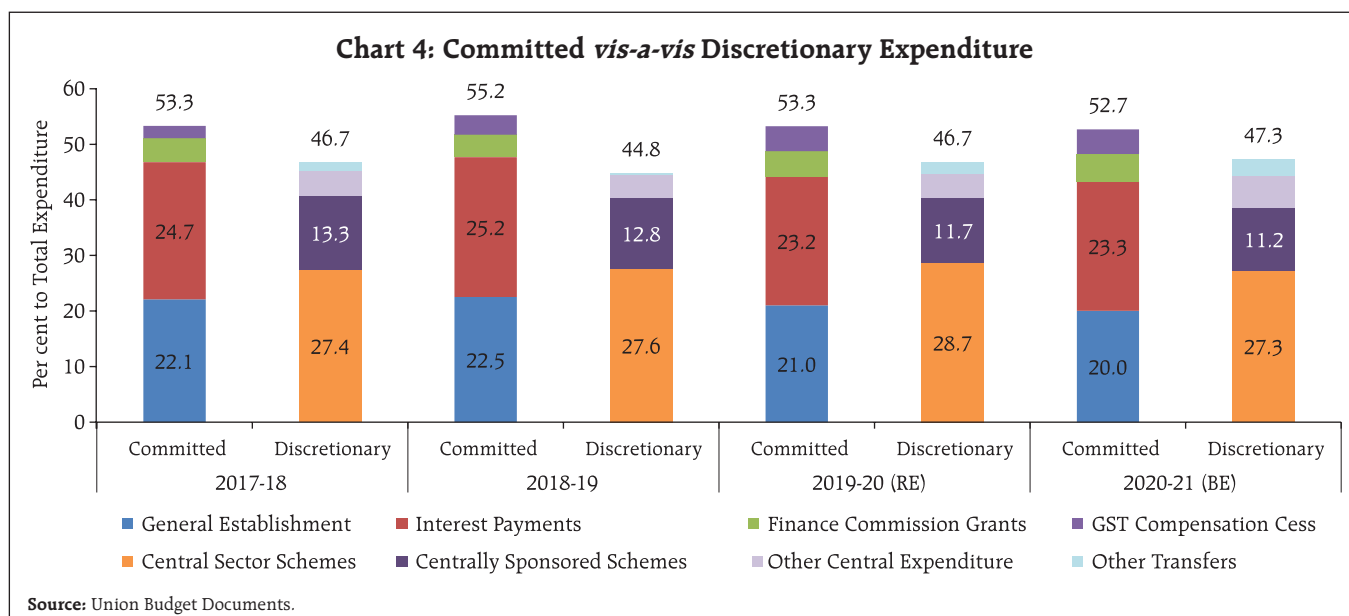
In terms of allocations to major government schemes, the budgeted amount in 2020-21 remains the same for Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PMKISAN) and marginally higher for Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) than in 2019-20 (BE) (Table 7). Both MGNREGA and PMKISAN are designed to directly increase the income of rural households and boost the rural economy.

Committed vis-à-vis Discretionary Expenditure

Total expenditure of the Union government can be decomposed into committed expenditure,

which includes those expenses that the government must incur, *viz.*, establishment expenditure (*i.e.* expenditure on salaries, wages, pensions and office expenses), interest payments, grants recommended by the Finance Commission and GST compensation to states, and discretionary expenditure which includes expenses over which the government enjoys certain discretion, *viz.*, central sector schemes (which include all subsidies), centrally sponsored schemes and transfers to states (excluding Finance Commission grants and GST compensation). More than half of the total expenditure of the union government falls under the head of committed expenditure, consequently being difficult to contain (Chart 4). It is only the discretionary expenditure that the government may be able to rein in for the purpose of fiscal consolidation⁵.

⁵ It may be noted that many items included under the head of discretionary expenditure are backed by statutes, such as the National Food Security Act, among others, and hence may be difficult to roll back.



Capital Expenditure

On top of an increase of 16.9 per cent during 2018-19, capital expenditure is budgeted to increase by 13.4 per cent in 2019-20 (RE) and further by 18.1 per cent in 2020-21. For major infrastructure, capital expenditure is estimated to grow by 22.4 per cent – led by communications sector which is budgeted to see over five-fold increase in allocation in 2020-21 (Table 8).

This thrust on capital expenditure is in line with the vision outlined in the National Infrastructure Pipeline Report, which envisages an investment of ₹102 lakh crore in creating new and upgrading existing infrastructure which will hold the key to raising India's competitiveness and achieving the target of a \$5 trillion economy by 2024-25. The Union Budget 2020-21 has also made explicit provisions of ₹22,050

Table 8: Capital Expenditure

	₹ thousand crore			Growth Rate (per cent)		
	2018-19	2019-20 (RE)	2020-21 (BE)	2018-19	2019-20 (RE)	2020-21 (BE)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Total Capital Expenditure	308	349	412	16.9	13.4	18.1
2. Defence	95	110	114	5.3	15.9	3.0
3. Capital Expenditure (excluding defence)	212	239	298	23.0	12.3	25.1
(i) Major Infrastructure	138	147	179	27.7	6.1	22.4
Irrigation	0.3	0.3	0.3	-3.4	0.0	24.0
Energy	9	5	6	92.1	-38.1	9.5
Indian Railways	53	68	70	21.7	28.4	3.2
Roads & Bridges	70	68	77	30.3	-2.2	13.3
Civil Aviation	4	0.03	0.03	116.5	-99.4	3.8
Ports and Light Houses	0.2	0.2	0.1	3.5	36.5	-69.1
Communications	3	5	26	-43.0	83.1	450.3
(ii) Industry & Minerals	5	7	7	-4.1	40.6	5.0
(iii) Science, Technology and Environment	7	9	10	35.8	27.7	9.5
(iv) Others	62	76	101	15.0	21.9	34.2

Source: Union Budget Documents

crore for projects coming under the National Infrastructure Pipeline.

V. GFD Financing

Gross market borrowing through dated securities is budgeted at ₹7.8 lakh crore for 2020-21 as compared to ₹7.1 lakh crore in 2019-20 (RE). Despite the higher than budgeted fiscal deficit, the gross and net market borrowings for 2019-20 has been kept intact, as the entire additional borrowing requirement is being met from the National Small Savings Fund (NSSF). Recent years have witnessed a growing share of NSSF in Centre's borrowing programme (Box II). Net market borrowings through dated securities will cover 68.4 per cent of GFD while that from NSSF will cover slightly over 30 per cent of the GFD in 2020-21 (BE) (Table 9).

The Union Budget 2020-21 has budgeted for switches of securities of ₹2.7 lakh crore (gross amount) (₹1.7 lakh crore during 2019-20 (RE)) and buyback of securities of ₹30,000 crore for 2020-21. It has also provided for net short-term borrowings of ₹25,000 crore and issuance of cash management bills (CMBs)

Table 9: GFD Financing

(₹ thousand crore)

	2018-19	2019-20 (BE)	2019-20 (RE)	2020-21 (BE)
1	2	3	4	5
Gross Fiscal Deficit	649 (100.0)	704 (100.0)	767 (100.0)	796 (100.0)
<i>Financed by</i>				
Net Market Borrowings	423 (65.1)	473 (67.2)	473 (61.7)	545 (68.4)
Net treasury bills	7 (1.1)	25 (3.6)	25 (3.3)	25 (3.1)
NSSF	125 (19.2)	130 (18.5)	240 (31.3)	240 (30.1)
External Assistance	6 (0.8)	-3 (-0.4)	5 (0.6)	5 (0.6)
State Provident Fund	16 (2.5)	18 (2.6)	18 (2.3)	18 (2.3)
Reserve Fund	-18 (-2.8)	-1 (-0.1)	0 (0.0)	3 (0.4)
Deposits and Advances	66 (10.2)	14 (1.9)	33 (4.3)	36 (4.5)
Draw Down of Cash Balances	-1 (-0.2)	51 (7.3)	0 (0.0)	-53 (-6.7)
Others	27 (4.1)	-3 (-0.5)	-27 (-3.6)	-22 (-2.8)
<i>Memo Item</i>				
Gross Market Borrowings	571	710	710	780

Notes: Net market borrowings include borrowings through dated securities only. Net treasury bills include borrowings through 91-day, 182-day, 364-day and all other treasury bills. Others include buyback of securities, switching off of securities, saving bonds, relief bonds, etc. Figures in parenthesis represent percentages of GFD.

Source: Union Budget Documents.

Box II: Growing Importance of National Small Savings Fund (NSSF)

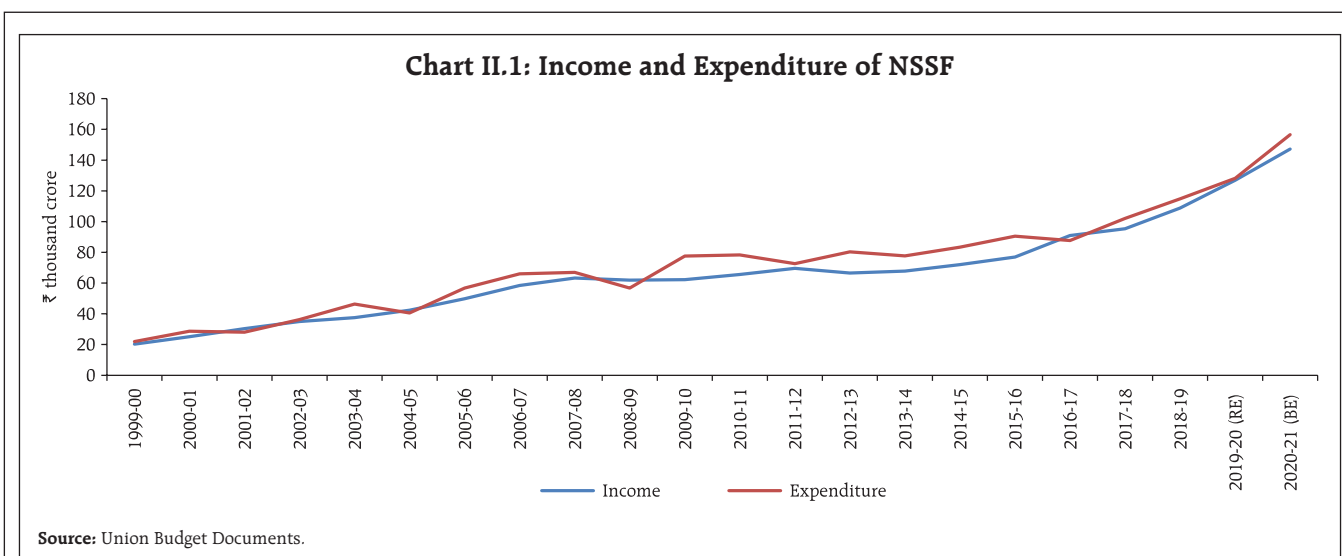
The NSSF is a fund created in the Public Account of India in which the proceeds of all small savings schemes, run by the government to promote financial savings, are accumulated. The receipts into NSSF come from three sources, viz., Post Office Savings Deposits, National Savings Certificates and Public Provident Fund. The funds collected in the NSSF are invested in special securities of Central and state governments. After the implementation of recommendations of the Fourteenth Finance Commission (FC - XIV), all state governments except Arunachal Pradesh, Delhi, Kerala and Madhya Pradesh have stopped borrowing from NSSF. The surplus funds, thus, available with the NSSF are being loaned out to the Public-Sector Undertakings (PSUs) like Food Corporation

of India, Air India, National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) and Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC), among others⁶.

The NSSF, therefore, is essentially a financial intermediary which channelises the surplus funds of households to the public sector. In doing so, it earns income on the loans given to the government and PSUs and incurs costs on account of interest payments to depositors and management expenses, the difference being its operating profit/loss. An analysis of income and expenditure of the NSSF from 1999-00 (the year in which NSSF was first carved out in the Public Account of India) to 2018-19 (the latest year for which actual data is available) reveals that

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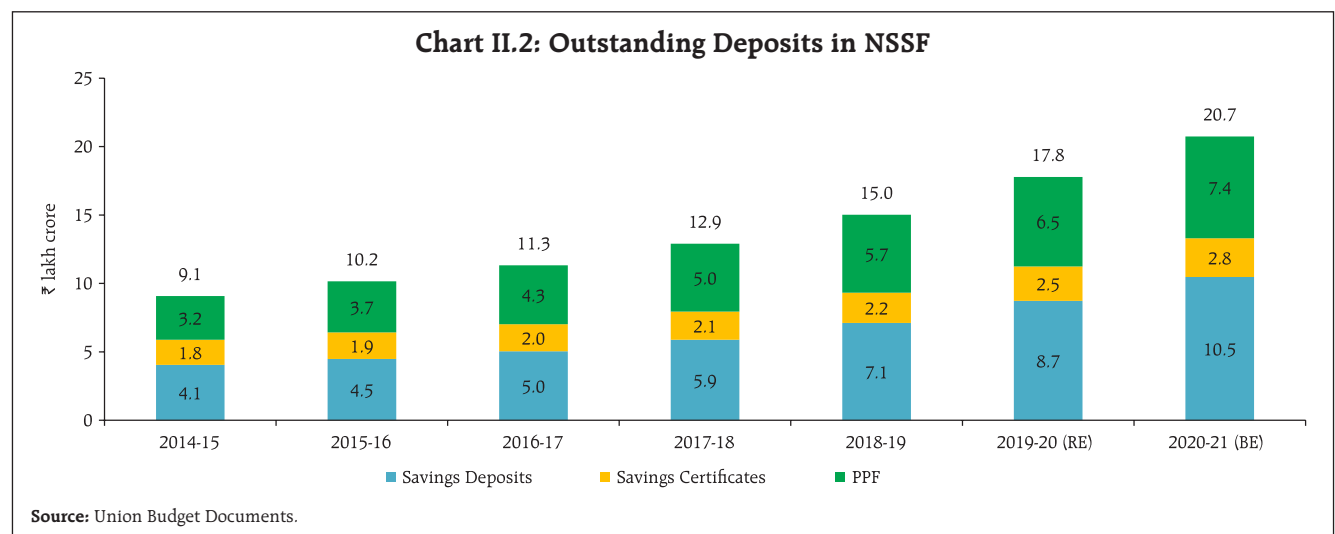
⁶ This is in line with the recommendations of Committee on Comprehensive Review of National Small Savings Fund (Chair: Smt. S. Gopinath) which proposed that in addition to government securities, NSSF may invest in securities issued by infrastructure companies that are wholly owned by the Government.



during this twenty-year period, the NSSF has achieved a surplus in only four years and the accumulated losses amount to ₹1.13 lakh crore as at end-March 2019, which is budgeted to increase to ₹1.24 lakh crore by end-March 2021 (Chart II.1).

It is notable that the NSSF borrows and lends money at administered rates of interest. While the lending rates are fixed annually, deposit rates are reviewed quarterly and have been aligned to G-sec rates of similar maturities,

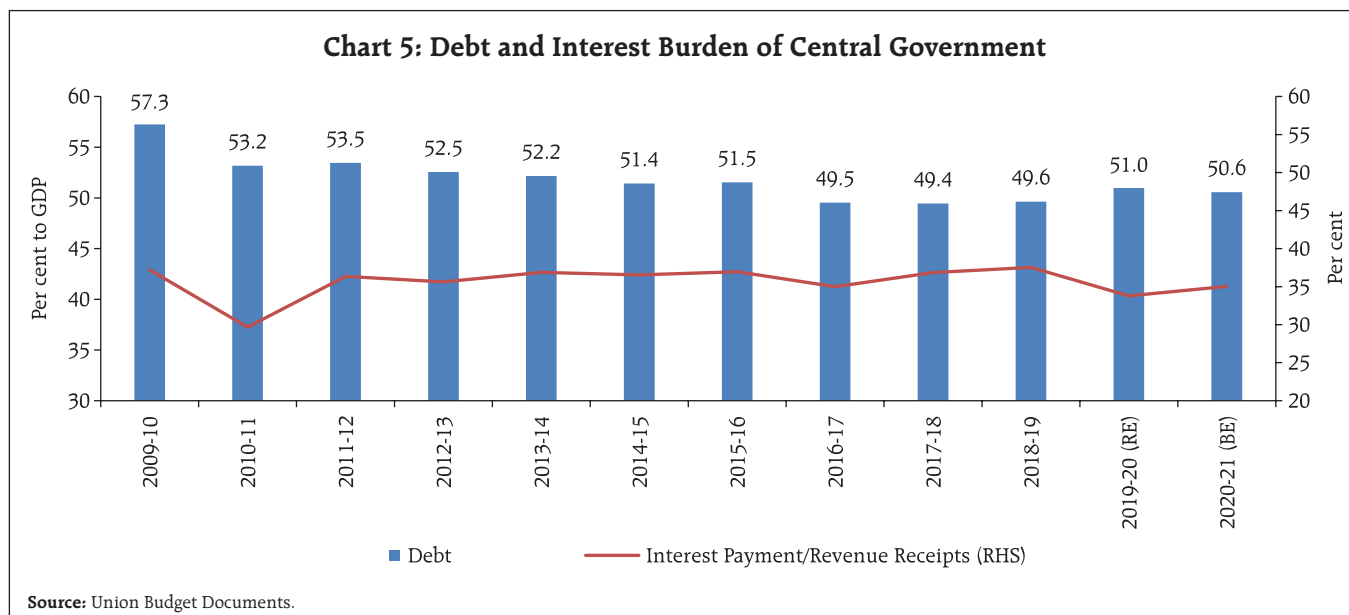
with a certain amount of spread on certain small savings schemes.⁷ In 2018-19, the ratio of interest expenditure to total deposits of NSSF was 6.9, whereas the comparable figure for scheduled commercial banks was 4.8. It is due to this differential between rate of interest offered on small savings schemes and bank deposits that the total corpus of NSSF has seen a phenomenal growth since 2014-15 and is budgeted to more than double to ₹20.7 lakh crore in 2020-21 from ₹9.1 lakh crore in 2014-15 (Chart II.2, Annex II).



⁷ On March 31, 2020 the government announced a significant reduction in interest rates on small savings schemes for Q1: 2020-21 (<https://dea.gov.in/sites/default/files/RoI%20Q1%202020-21%20%281%29.pdf>).

of ₹2.5 lakh crore. There is no allocation under the Market Stabilisation Scheme (MSS). The Government

has also planned to raise a gross amount of ₹10,500 crore *via* Sovereign Gold Bonds (SGBs) in 2020-21.



VI. Outstanding Liabilities

Total outstanding liabilities of the Union government (including borrowings through extra budgetary resources) are budgeted to increase sharply to 51.0 per cent of GDP in 2019-20 (RE) and moderate slightly to 50.6 per cent in 2020-21 BE (Chart 5). The government has projected that the outstanding liabilities will contract to 45.5 per cent by 2022-23.⁸ It may be noted that as per the revised FRBM framework, the target is to reduce the outstanding liabilities of Union government to 40 per cent of GDP by 2024-25.

VII. Resource Transfers from the Centre to States

Resource transfers from the Centre to states declined in 2019-20 (RE) due to significantly lower

tax devolution, which was partially offset by increase in other transfers. As per cent of GDP, gross transfers declined by 0.5 per cent during the year. Coupled with lower central tax collections, another main reason for the decline in tax devolution in the year is lower actual tax collections of Centre in the previous year *viz.*, 2018-19 compared to revised estimates which has been adjusted in 2019-20 (RE) to the extent of about 30 basis points. In 2020-21, gross transfers are budgeted at 6.2 per cent of GDP, which represents a significant increase from 5.8 per cent in 2019-20 (RE). Tax devolution is as per the formula recommended by the Fifteenth Finance Commission in its interim report (Box III) and continues to be the mainstay of resources transferred from the Centre to states.

Box III: Interim Report of the Fifteenth Finance Commission: A Reflection

The Centre-state fiscal imbalance in India is sought to be corrected through a system of federal transfers from the Centre to states, which have principally been in the form of tax devolution and funding of centrally sponsored schemes since 2015-16. The Finance Commission (FC), a constitutional body under Article 280, is entrusted with determining the ratio of tax devolution and has thus come to play the pivotal role in Centre-state fiscal relations.

Tax devolution as per cent of GDP has shown a significant increase in the period, attributable to the Fourteenth Finance Commission (FC-XIV), even though aggregate resource transfer has broadly remained stable (Chart III.1a). This stability has been attained by arresting the growth in tax devolution through an increase in Centre's reliance on cesses and surcharges in tax collections that are outside the shareable pool of taxes (divisible pool) as per

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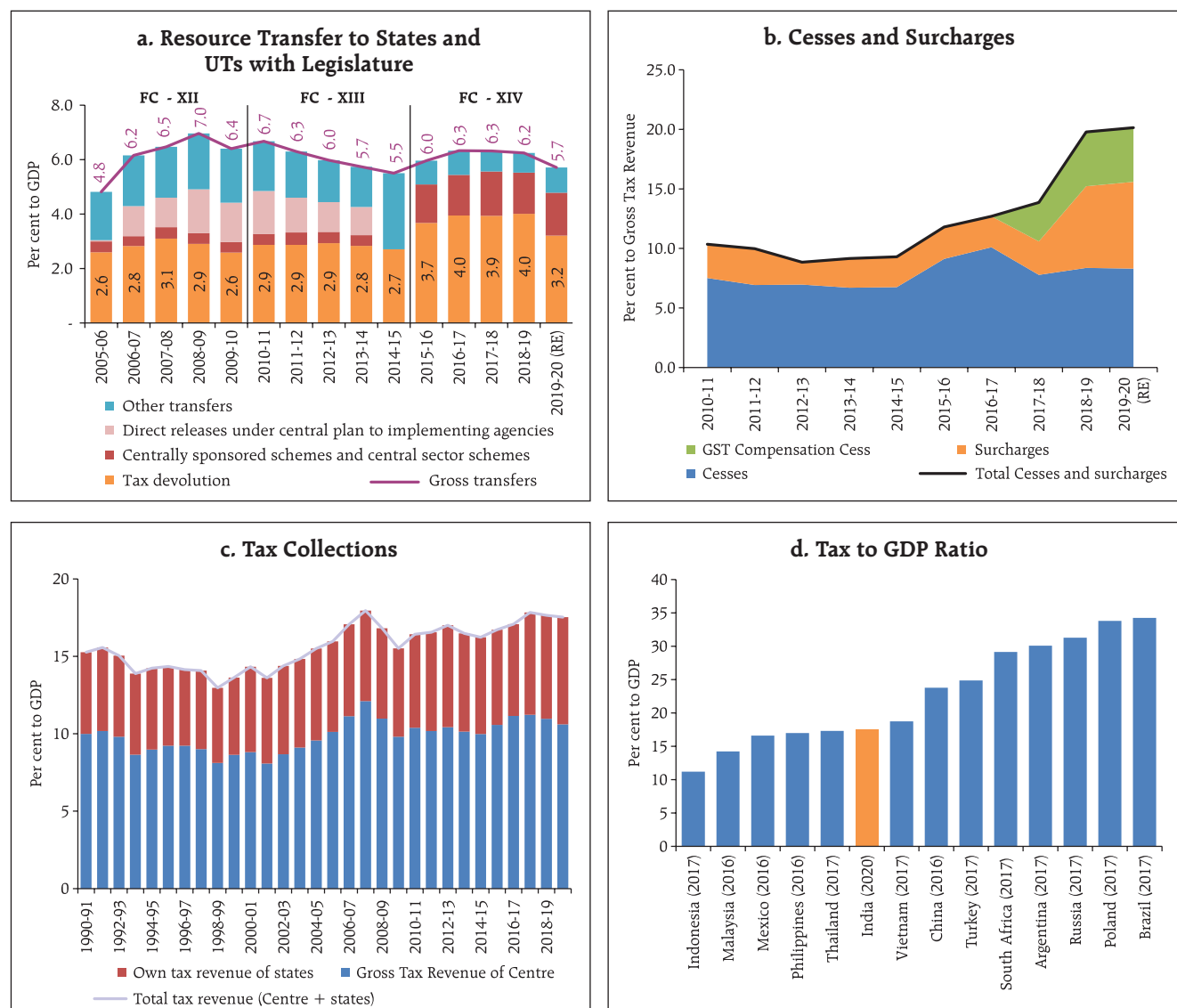
⁸ Medium Term Fiscal Policy cum Fiscal Policy Strategy Statement, Union Budget 2020-21.

Article 271 of the constitution (Chart III.1b). Concurrently, tax collections as per cent of GDP for both Centre and states have stagnated since 2007-08, after registering robust increase between 2001-02 to 2007-08 (Chart III.1c). Another reality that institutions of federal fiscal polity in India are confronted with is a low intensity of tax to GDP in India *vis-a-vis* its peers (Chart III.1d).

In this milieu, the interim report of the Fifteenth Finance Commission (FC-XV) was tabled in the Budget Session of

the Parliament on February 1, 2020. Its recommendations have been largely accepted by the Central government and reflected in the Union Budget provisions of 2020-21. The tax devolution ratio is recommended at 41 per cent of the divisible pool for 2020-21, 1 per cent lower than the 42 per cent in 2015-20, the period corresponding to the FC-XIV. The reduction in the share of states is primarily because of elimination of the share which used to be allocated to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir (0.8 per cent of the divisible pool).

Chart III.1: Dynamics of Federal Transfers: Stylised Evidence



Notes on charts:
 a. For the year 2014-15, resources transferred to centrally sponsored schemes and central sector schemes were included in central assistance for state and UT plans.
 c. Gross tax revenue for Centre in 2019-20 is revised estimate. Own tax revenues for states in 2018-19 and 2019-20 are revised estimates and budget estimates, respectively.
Sources: Union budget documents (various issues), RBI State Finances Report (various issues), United Nations University, Government Revenue Dataset, 2019.

(Contd...)

Other than tax devolution, the FC also recommends specific transfers to states in the form of grants under Article 280 of the constitution. The purpose of these grants has varied considerably over successive FCs, though the share of devolution to local bodies has increased considerably since the passage of the 73rd and 74th amendments to the constitution in 1992 that mandated federal transfers to local bodies. For 2020-21 as well, devolution to local bodies commands the major share in FC grants; the commission also recommended a significant increase in grants for bridging revenue deficit (Table III.1).

The FC is also entrusted with determination of criteria and formula for *inter se* distribution of taxes among states, with the objective of enabling a minimum level of government services to all citizens while addressing states' different revenue raising capacities owing to the disparity in their income levels. The FC-XV has made significant changes in the criteria and devolution share of individual states, primarily attributable to the change in population census year from 1971 to 2011. The change in population census is governed by the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the commission. Though the FC-XV tries to balance the loss in share for low population growth states due to the change in reference census by introducing a criterion for demographic performance⁹, population is

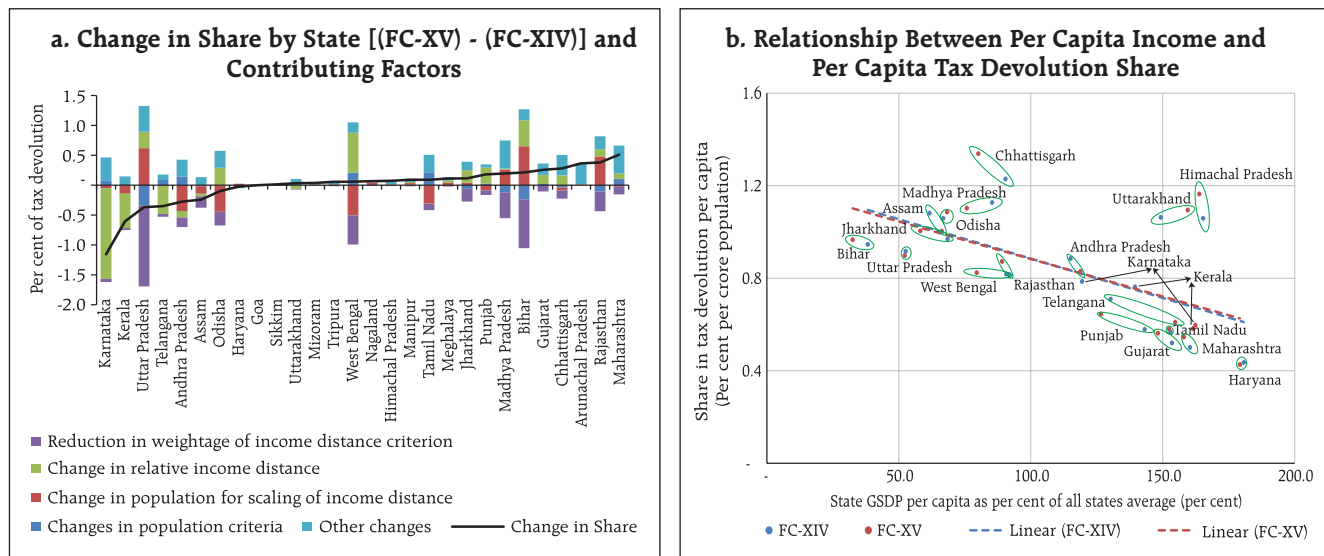
Table III.1: Finance Commission Grants

(₹ crore)

Name of grant	Union budget 2020-21			FC-XV recommendation
	2018-19	2019-20 (RE)	2020-21 (BE)	2020-21
Grants for local bodies - Rural	35,064	58,616	69,925	60,750
Grants for local bodies - Urban	14,400	25,843	30,000	29,250
Grants-in-Aid for State Disaster Relief Fund	9,658	10,938	20,000	22,184
Post devolution revenue deficit bridging grants	34,582	28,314	30,000	74,340
Special Grants				6,764
Sector-specific grants for nutrition				7,735
Total Finance Commission Grants	93,704	1,23,710	1,49,925	2,01,023

also indirectly used as a criterion in scaling the income distance of a state and thus disadvantages those states that have achieved low growth rates in population (Chart III.2a). Other changes in criteria for *inter se* distribution include increase in weightage of forest cover (by 2.5 per

Chart III.2: Inter se Distribution of Devolved Taxes



Notes: 1. In chart a, change in population criteria reflects the impact from change in reference census year and replacement of demographic change criterion with demographic performance criterion. Other changes include impact from increase in weightage of forest cover and introduction of tax effort criterion.
 2. In chart b, for the x-axis, per capita GSDP for individual states and all states average is for the reference years used by the respective finance commissions for their income distance criterion. Analysis is based on prevalent studies on regional income disparity and convergence in India over long time periods (Krishna, 2004; Kumar, 2005; Mishra and Mishra, 2015; Bandyopadhyay, 2016).

Sources: FC-XIV report, FC-XV interim report, author's calculations.

(Contd...)

⁹ Defined as the product of the inverse of the total fertility rate as per 2011 population census, and a state's population in 1971.

cent), introduction of a new criterion for tax effort (2.5 per cent weightage) and reduction in weightage of income distance criteria by 5 per cent. On the whole, per capita share in tax devolution recommended by the FC-XV in its interim report are at the same level of progressivity as the FC-XIV (Chart III.2b and Annex III).

The full report of the FC-XV that will contain the recommendations on tax devolution and grants for the years 2021-22 to 2025-26 is to be submitted by October 30, 2020. In its full report, the FC-XV also envisages recommending sector-specific grants for health, pre-primary education, judiciary, rural connectivity, railways, statistics and police training and housing. Further, the commission is also evaluating the feasibility of recommending performance based grants to states in six areas: agriculture reforms; performance on Aspirational

Districts Programme (ADP); power sector reforms; trade (exports); education; and tourism promotion.

References:

Bandopadhyay, S. (2016), "The persistence of inequality across Indian states", *CSAE Working Paper WPS/2016-26*.

Krishna, K.L. (2004), "Patterns and Determinants of Economic Growth in Indian States", *Working Paper No 144*, Indian Council of Research on International Economic Relations.

Kumar, T.R. (2005), "Tax Devolution and Regional Disparities", *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 40(20).

Mishra, A. and Mishra, V. (2015), "Examining Income Convergence among Indian States: Time Series Evidence with Structural Breaks", *Discussion Paper 44/15*, Monash Business School, Department of Economics.

The increase in Finance Commission grants in 2019-20 (RE) and 2020-21 (BE) is driven by higher grants for rural and urban local bodies. Transfers to Union Territories

have increased in 2019-20 (RE) and 2020-21 (BE) due to the inclusion of transfers to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir within this head (Table 10).

Table 10: Gross and Net Transfers from Centre to States

	₹ thousand crore				Per cent of GDP			
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (RE)	2020-21 (BE)	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (RE)	2020-21 (BE)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. Devolution of States' Share in Taxes	673.0	761.5	656.0	784.2	3.9	4.0	3.2	3.5
a. Tax devolution to states' as accrued during the year*	697.6	678.0	714.9	784.2	4.1	3.6	3.5	3.5
b. States' share adjustment as per actual of previous year	0.0	24.6	-58.8	0.0	0.0	0.1	-0.3	0.0
2. Finance Commission Grants	92.2	93.7	123.7	149.9	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7
a. Grant for Rural Local Bodies	34.4	35.1	58.6	69.9	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3
b. Grants for urban local bodies	12.6	14.4	25.8	30.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
c. Grants-in-aid for SDRF	9.4	9.7	10.9	20.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
d. Post Devolution Revenue Deficit Grants	35.8	34.6	28.3	30.0	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
3. Scheme Related Transfers	278.8	286.0	322.4	335.9	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.5
a. Under Centrally Sponsored Schemes	262.0	271.5	283.1	295.3	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.3
b. Under Central Sector Schemes	16.0	13.6	38.2	39.5	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
c. Other transfers	0.8	0.9	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
4. Some Important Items of Transfer	37.2	46.2	57.3	73.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3
a. Special Assistance	7.0	4.7	4.0	15.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
b. Assistance to states from NDRF	4.7	10.0	20.0	25.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
c. Externally aided projects-loans	17.5	23.8	25.0	25.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
d. Other transfers	8.1	7.8	8.3	8.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
5. Transfers to Delhi, Puducherry and Jammu and Kashmir (since October 2019)	3.8	8.0	28.4	47.4	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2
6. Gross Transfers to States and UTs (1 to 5)	1,085.1	1,195.4	1,188.0	1,390.7	6.3	6.3	5.8	6.2
7. Recovery of Loans and Advances	13.1	14.4	14.2	12.5	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
8. Net Resources transferred to States and UTs (6-7)	1,072.0	1,181.0	1,173.8	1,378.2	6.3	6.2	5.7	6.1

Note: * Tax devolution to states as accrued during the year = Tax devolution to states - States' share adjustment as per actual (accrued in the previous year) + Next year's states' share adjustment as per actual. For example, Tax accrued in 2018-19 = 761.5 - 24.6 + (-58.8).

Figures in columns might not add up to the total due to rounding off of numbers.

Source: Union Budget Documents

VIII. Conclusion

The Union Budget 2020-21 aims at energising the Indian economy through a combination of short-term, medium-term, and long-term measures. The direct tax reforms, particularly the exemption from income tax is likely to boost purchasing power of the middle-income households. The abolition of dividend distribution tax, a long-standing demand of the industry, should work towards making India an attractive destination for investment. Overall, the budget is growth promoting and welfare enhancing within the envelope governed by fiscal prudence. The budget has also avoided cutting down capital expenditure to meet the fiscal deficit target in a year

of subdued growth momentum in the economy, which is desirable. As regards the FRBM targets, the escape clause has been used for three successive years now – in 2018-19 and 2019-20 to allow the GST regime to stabilise in due course and in 2019-20 and 2020-21 to account for the revenue implications of lower corporate taxes which could make India globally more competitive and stimulate investment and growth in the medium-term. During the ensuing year, the economic developments especially against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic and the evolving situation will be crucial in determining the fiscal performance of the country.

Annex I: Budget Highlights: Measures**Measures in the Budget 2020-21 pertaining to RBI:**

- Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) permitted to increase deposit insurance coverage from ₹1 lakh to ₹5 lakh per depositor.
- Proposal to introduce governance reforms in PSBs so that they become more competitive.
- Proposal to strengthen cooperative banks through appropriate amendments to Banking Regulation Act for increasing professionalism, enabling access to capital and improving governance and oversight by RBI, apart from taking further steps to bring in transparency in Public Sector Banks (PSBs).
- Limit for NBFCs to be eligible for debt recovery under SARFAESI Act is proposed to be reduced from ₹500 crore to asset size of ₹100 crore or loan size from existing ₹1 crore to ₹50 lakh.
- Government has asked RBI to consider extension of window (which is slated to close on March 31, 2020) for restructuring of debt by MSMEs.
- A scheme will be devised to strengthen the Partial Credit Guarantee scheme for the NBFCs (that had been announced earlier). Government will guarantee securities thereby floated.
- Financial markets:
 - o Certain specified categories of government securities would be opened fully for non-resident investors as well.
 - o FPI Limit for corporate bonds, currently at 9 per cent of outstanding stock, to be increased to 15 per cent.

Part I

Theme A: Aspirational India in which all sections of the society seek better standards of living, with access to health, education and better jobs.

1. Agriculture, Irrigation and Rural Development

- PM KUSUM (Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evem Utthan Mahabhiyan) to cover 20 lakh farmers for standalone solar pumps and an additional 15 lakh to be supported to solarise their grid connected pumps.
- Proposal for viability gap funding for creation of efficient, Warehouse Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA) norms-compliant warehouses on PPP mode.
- SHG-run village storage scheme to be launched which will provide farmers a good holding capacity and reduce their logistics cost. Women, SHGs shall regain their position as "Dhaanya Lakshmi".
- Integration of e-NWR (Negotiable Warehouse Receipts) with e-NAM (National Agricultural Market).
- "Kisan Rail" and "Krishi Udaan" to be launched by Indian Railways and Ministry of Civil Aviation respectively for a national cold supply chain for perishables. Express and freight trains shall have refrigerated coaches.
- In horticulture sector, for better marketing and export, it is proposed to support states which, adopting a cluster basis, will focus on "one product one district".
- Integrated farming systems in rainfed areas is proposed to be expanded and national portal on organic products will be strengthened.
- Agricultural credit target of ₹15 lakh crore has been set for 2020-21. Fish production target of 200 lakh tonnes by 2022-23, in addition to promotion of growing of algae and sea weed and of cage culture.

Annex I: Budget Highlights: Measures (Contd.)

- Proposal to involve youth in fishery through 'Sagar Mitras' and giving a fillip for creation of 500 fish Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs).

2. Wellness, Water and Sanitation:

- Proposal to provide viability gap funding to set up hospitals under the PPP mode, starting with Aspirational districts that have no empanelled hospital under PMJAY (Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana).
- Expansion of Jan Aushadhi Kendra Scheme to all districts by 2024.
- Commitment to ODF Plus to sustain ODF behaviour and to ensure comprehensive coverage across all sections of population.
- Focus on liquid and grey water management along with solid waste management.
- Thrust on million-plus cities meeting their targets under Jal Jeevan Mission (augmenting conventional and unconventional sources of water) on expedited basis.

3. Education and Skills

- New Education Policy to be announced soon.
- Steps would be taken to enable sourcing External Commercial Borrowings (ECBs) and FDI so as to able to deliver higher quality education through enhancement of physical and human capital.
- About 150 higher educational institutions will start apprenticeship-embedded courses by March 2021 to enhance employability of youth.
- Internship opportunities to fresh engineers for a period of up to one year by ULBs

- Initiation of degree level full-fledged online education programme by institutions within first 100 ranks of National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF).
- Ind-SAT to be conducted in Asia and Africa under Study in India programme. It shall be used for benchmarking foreign candidates who receive scholarships for studying in Indian higher education centres.
- It is proposed to attach a medical college to an existing district hospital in PPP mode.
- Special bridge courses to be designed by the Ministries of Health and Skill Development together with professional bodies to bring in equivalence with global standards, to facilitate Indian teachers, nurses, para-medical staff and care-givers in securing employment abroad.

Theme B: Economic Development**1. Industry, Commerce and Investment**

- National Technical Textiles Mission has been proposed for a period of 4 years from 2020-21 to 2023-24.
- NIRVIK Scheme for higher export credit disbursement to be launched which provides for higher insurance coverage, reduction in premium for small exporters and simplified procedure for claim settlements.
- Setting up of an Investment Clearance Cell, working through a portal, to provide end to end facilitation and support, including pre-investment advisory, information related to land banks and facilitate clearances at Centre and State level.
- Development of 5 new smart cities in collaboration with states on PPP basis.

Annex I: Budget Highlights: Measures (Contd.)

- Scheme to be launched to encourage manufacture of mobile phones, electronic equipment, semi-conductor packaging, medical devices to leverage India's cost competitiveness in electronics manufacturing.
- Emphasis to raise turnover on Government e-marketplace to ₹3 lakh crore, for maximising opportunities for MSMEs.

2. Infrastructure

- A project preparation facility is proposed to be setup for infrastructure projects.
- A National Logistics Policy will be launched soon to create a single window e-logistics market and focus on generation of employment, skills and making MSMEs competitive.
- Roads: Accelerated development of Highways will be undertaken, involving scaling up access control highways, economic corridors, strategic highways.
- Railways: Four station redevelopment projects and operation of 150 passenger trains through PPP mode. Creation of large solar power capacity in railway land alongside rail tracks. 148 km long Bengaluru Suburban transport project to be started with 20 per cent equity by Central government.
- Port: Government would consider corporatizing at least one major port and subsequently its listing on the stock exchanges.
- Air: 100 more airports to be developed under UDAN (*Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik / Regional Connectivity Scheme*).

- Power: Efforts to replace conventional energy meters by prepaid smart meters.
- Gas Grid: Expand National Gas Grid from 16,200 km to 27,000 km

3. New Economy

- A policy to enable private sector to build Data Centre parks throughout the country to be rolled out soon, to enable dovetailing of data in every step of value chain.
- Fibre to the Home (FTTH) connections through Bharatnet will link 1,00,000 gram panchayats this year.
- National Mission on Quantum Technologies and applications with an outlay of ₹8,000 crore proposed.
- Knowledge Translation Clusters would be set up across different technology sectors including new and emerging areas.
- Special emphasis on early life funding to start ups, including a seed fund to support ideation and development of early stage Start-ups.

Theme C: Caring Society**1. Women & Child, Social Welfare**

- Consultation with and financial assistance to urban local bodies for adoption of suitable technologies identified to eliminate manual cleaning of sewer systems or septic tanks.
- A task force to be appointed to recommend regarding lowering Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) and improving nutrition levels.
- Allocation of ₹85,000 crore, ₹53,700 crore and ₹9,500 crore respectively for benefit of SCs, STs and senior citizens and *divyangjan*.

Annex I: Budget Highlights: Measures (Contd.)**2. Culture and Tourism**

- Proposal to establish Indian Institute of Heritage and conservation under Ministry of Culture which shall have the status of a deemed University to start with.
- 5 archaeological sites to be developed as iconic sites with on-site Museums.
- Tribal museum to be set up in Ranchi.
- Raft of measures announced to re-curate existing museums (such as Indian Museum in Kolkata) and establish new museums (such as maritime museum at Lothal) with a view to offering world class experience to tourists.

3. Environment and Climate Change

- Incentive-based scheme for encouragement to states implementing plans for cleaner air in cities with population above 1 million.
- For old and high carbon emitting power plants, it proposed that utilities running them would be advised to close them, if their emission is above the pre-set norms. The land so vacated can be put to alternative use.

Two hands that will hold this bouquet consisting of three themes as mentioned above are *Governance* and *Financial Sector*.

Governance

- Proposal for inclusion of tax payer charter in statute, with a view to ensuring that our citizens are free from harassment of any kind.
- For Companies Act, certain amendments are proposed to be made that will correct for criminal liability for acts that are civil in nature.
- It is proposed to set up a National Recruitment Agency (NRA) for recruitment to Non-Gazetted

posts. A test-centre in every district, particularly in the Aspirational Districts would be set up.

- The proposed new National Policy on Official Statistics would use latest technology including AI to fulfil the growing need for the Indian Statistical system
- A sum of ₹100 crore is allocated to begin the preparations to host G 20 presidency in the year 2022.
- Firms in selected sectors such to be provided handholding support for technology upgradation, R&D, business strategy by a scheme worth ₹100 crore to be anchored by both SIDBI and EXIM Bank.
- Sums of ₹30, 757 crore and ₹5, 958 crore for supporting the all-round development of UTs of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh respectively.

Financial Sector

- Proposal to sell balance holding of government in IDBI Bank to private, retail and institutional investors through the stock exchange.
- Proposal for separation of NPS Trust for government employees from PFRDAI.
- It is proposed to introduce a scheme to provide subordinated debt for entrepreneurs of MSMEs, which count as quasi-equity and be guaranteed by Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE).
- Proposal to launch new Debt-ETF consisting primarily of government securities to allow retail access to government securities.
- Proposed amendments to Factor Regulation Act 2011 to enable NBFCs to extend invoice financing to the MSMEs through Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS).

Annex I: Budget Highlights: Measures (Contd.)

- With the approval of the regulator, GIFT City would set up an International Bullion exchange(s) in GIFT-IFSC as an additional option for trade by global market participants.
- The government has proposed to sell a part of its holding in LIC by way of Initial Public Offer (IPO).

Part II: Tax Proposals**A. Direct Tax**

- Simplified and New Income tax regime. The new tax regime shall be optional for the taxpayers and bring significant relief.
- Dividend Distribution Tax (DDT) is abolished and classical system of dividend taxation adopted under which the companies would not be required to pay DDT. The dividend shall be taxed only in the hands of the recipients at their applicable rate.
- Concessional corporate tax rate of 15 per cent extended to new domestic companies engaged in the generation of electricity.
- Tax concession of 100 per cent on interest, dividend and capital gains income in respect of investment made in infrastructure and other notified sectors by sovereign wealth fund of foreign governments and other foreign investments in order to incentivise the investments in the above sectors.
- Tax benefits to start-ups by way of deduction of 100 per cent of their profits enhanced (by increasing turnover limit from ₹25 crore to ₹100 crore) and period of eligibility for claim of deduction increased from 7 years to 10 years considering start-ups as engine of growth. Also, tax on Employee Stock Option Plan (ESOP) given to start-ups

employees deferred by five years or till they leave the company or when they sell their shares, whichever is earliest.

- Concessional tax rate for cooperatives - cooperative societies to be taxed at 22 per cent plus 10 per cent surcharge and 4 per cent cess with no exemption/deductions against existing 30 per cent rate plus cess and surcharges. Cooperative societies also exempted from Alternate Minimum Tax (AMT).
- To further incentivise the affordable housing, extension of time limits pertaining to the tax benefits (additional deduction of up to ₹1,50,000 for interest paid on loans taken for purchase of an affordable house) for affordable housing for realisation of the goal of 'Housing for All'.

B. Indirect Tax

- Special attention to limit import of those items which are being produced by our MSMEs with better quality. Accordingly, customs duty is proposed to be raised on items like footwear and furniture. Customs duty rates are proposed to be revised on electric vehicles, and parts of mobiles as part of carefully conceived Phased Manufacturing Plans under Make in India initiative.

C. Tax Administration

- Turnover threshold for audit (by accountant) of MSMEs increased from the existing ₹1 crore to ₹5 crore in order to reduce the compliance burden on small retailers, traders, shopkeepers. To boost less cash economy, increased limit apply only to

Annex I: Budget Highlights: Measures (Concl.)

those businesses which carry out less than 5 per cent of their transactions in cash.

- Issuance of Unique Registration Number to all charity institutions for easy tax compliance.
- Amendment of Income Tax act to enable faceless appeal in extension of faceless assessment.
- Initiation of scheme to launch a system under which PAN shall be instantly allotted online on the basis of Aadhaar without any requirement for filling up of detailed application form.
- Health cess to be imposed on imports of medical equipment. These proceeds to be used for creating infrastructure for health services in the aspirational districts.
- Mandate the CBDT to adopt a 'Taxpayers' Charter' with the objective of enhancing the efficiency of the delivery system of the Income Tax Department.
- No Dispute but Trust Scheme - '*Vivad Se Vishwas*' Scheme to reduce litigations in direct taxes.
- Simplified GST return shall be implemented from April 1, 2020. Refund process to be fully automated. Dynamic QR-code is proposed for consumer invoices. A system of cash reward is envisaged to incentivise customers to seek invoice.

Annex II

Annual Flow of Funds Relating to NSSF (₹ crore)				
Year	Receipts	Disbursements	Net Accrual	Outstanding
1	2	3	4 (2-3)	5
2015-16	4,45,974	3,39,036	1,06,938	10,15,225
2016-17	5,16,000	3,98,734	1,17,266	11,32,490
2017-18	5,92,710	4,35,596	1,57,114	12,89,604
2018-19	6,80,021	4,68,018	2,12,004	15,01,608
2019-20 RE	8,28,520	5,51,932	2,76,588	17,78,196
2020-21 BE	8,69,946	5,74,009	2,95,936	20,74,132

Source: Union Budget Documents.

Annex III: Criteria for *Inter-se* Distribution of Taxes among States

Criteria	FC-XIV		FC-XV	
	Weightage	Formula (share of state i)	Weightage	Formula (share of state i)
Population - 1971	17.5	$POP_{i1971} / \sum_{j=1}^{29} POP_j 1971$		
Population - 2011	10	$POP_{i2011} / \sum_{j=1}^{29} POP_j 2011$	15	$POP_{i2011} / \sum_{j=1}^{29} POP_j 2011$
Demographic Performance (DP)			12.5	$DP_i / \sum_{j=1}^{28} DP_j$ [$DP_i = POP_{i1971} / TFR_i$]
Forest and Ecology	7.5	$F_i / \sum_{j=1}^{29} F_j$ $F_i =$ very dense forest + moderately dense forest	10	$F_i / \sum_{j=1}^{28} F_j$ $F_i =$ very dense forest + moderately dense forest
Income Distance	50	$D_i / \sum_{j=1}^{29} D_j$ $D_i =$ distance in per capita income of ith state from third highest state * POP_{i1971}	45	$D_i / \sum_{j=1}^{28} D_j$ $D_i =$ distance in per capita income of ith state from third highest state * POP_{i2011}
Area	15	$Area_i / \sum_{j=1}^{29} Area_j$	15	$Area_i / \sum_{j=1}^{28} Area_j$
Tax Effort			2.5	$TE_i / \sum_{j=1}^{28} TE_j$ [$TE =$ tax ratio * Population]
Total	100		100	

Source: FC IV Report, FC XV Interim Report.

CURRENT STATISTICS

Select Economic Indicators

Reserve Bank of India

Money and Banking

Prices and Production

Government Accounts and Treasury Bills

Financial Markets

External Sector

Payment and Settlement Systems

Occasional Series

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Notes: .. = Not available.
 – = Nil/Negligible.
 P = Preliminary/Provisional. PR = Partially Revised.

No. 1: Select Economic Indicators

Item	2018-19	2018-19		2019-20	
		Q2	Q3	Q2	Q3
	1	2	3	4	5
1 Real Sector (% Change)					
1.1 GVA at Basic Prices	6.0	6.1	5.6	4.8	4.5
1.1.1 Agriculture	2.4	2.5	2.0	3.1	3.5
1.1.2 Industry	4.5	4.7	4.4	0.1	0.1
1.1.3 Services	7.5	7.2	7.3	6.8	6.4
1.1a Final Consumption Expenditure	7.6	9.1	7.0	7.0	6.7
1.1b Gross Fixed Capital Formation	9.8	11.5	11.4	-4.1	-5.2
	2018-19	2019		2020	
	1	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.
	1	2	3	4	5
1.2 Index of Industrial Production	3.8	1.6	0.2	2.0	-
2 Money and Banking (% Change)					
2.1 Scheduled Commercial Banks					
2.1.1 Deposits	10.0	9.6	10.0	9.9	9.0
2.1.2 Credit	13.3	14.8	14.7	7.2	6.1
2.1.2.1 Non-food Credit	13.4	14.7	14.6	7.1	6.1
2.1.3 Investment in Govt. Securities	1.9	-0.1	-1.2	11.2	10.6
2.2 Money Stock Measures					
2.2.1 Reserve Money (M0)	14.5	16.2	16.5	12.3	11.3
2.2.2 Broad Money (M3)	10.5	10.4	10.8	11.2	10.2
3 Ratios (%)					
3.1 Cash Reserve Ratio	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
3.2 Statutory Liquidity Ratio	19.25	19.25	19.25	18.25	18.25
3.3 Cash-Deposit Ratio	5.1	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7
3.4 Credit-Deposit Ratio	77.7	78.0	78.1	75.8	75.8
3.5 Incremental Credit-Deposit Ratio	99.9	127.7	123.5	44.4	44.3
3.6 Investment-Deposit Ratio	26.9	27.9	27.6	28.0	28.3
3.7 Incremental Investment-Deposit Ratio	5.4	4.4	3.6	46.9	51.8
4 Interest Rates (%)					
4.1 Policy Repo Rate	6.25	6.50	6.25	5.15	5.15
4.2 Reverse Repo Rate	6.00	6.25	6.00	4.90	4.90
4.3 Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) Rate	6.50	6.75	6.50	5.40	5.40
4.4 Bank Rate	6.50	6.75	6.50	5.40	5.40
4.5 Base Rate	8.95/9.40	8.95/9.45	8.95/9.45	8.45/9.40	8.45/9.40
4.6 MCLR (Overnight)	8.05/8.55	8.15/8.55	8.15/8.55	7.50/7.95	7.50/7.90
4.7 Term Deposit Rate >1 Year	6.25/7.50	6.25/7.50	6.25/7.50	6.10/6.40	6.00/6.40
4.8 Savings Deposit Rate	3.50/4.00	3.50/4.00	3.50/4.00	3.25/3.50	3.25/3.50
4.9 Call Money Rate (Weighted Average)	6.35	6.43	6.29	4.94	4.96
4.10 91-Day Treasury Bill (Primary) Yield	6.31	6.56	6.40	5.13	5.08
4.11 182-Day Treasury Bill (Primary) Yield	6.35	6.69	6.48	5.24	5.18
4.12 364-Day Treasury Bill (Primary) Yield	6.39	6.78	6.55	5.29	5.16
4.13 10-Year G-Sec Par Yield (FBIL)	7.34	7.30	7.41	6.86	6.65
5 Reference Rate and Forward Premia					
5.1 INR-US\$ Spot Rate (Rs. Per Foreign Currency)	69.17	71.11	71.22	71.51	72.19
5.2 INR-Euro Spot Rate (Rs. Per Foreign Currency)	77.70	80.50	80.75	78.82	79.44
5.3 Forward Premia of US\$ 1-month (%)	6.07	4.05	4.13	3.52	3.82
3-month (%)	4.80	4.22	4.38	4.25	3.93
6-month (%)	4.16	4.11	4.16	4.21	3.91
6 Inflation (%)					
6.1 All India Consumer Price Index	3.4	2.0	2.6	7.6	6.6
6.2 Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers	5.4	6.6	7.0	7.5	6.8
6.3 Wholesale Price Index	4.3	2.8	2.9	3.1	2.3
6.3.1 Primary Articles	2.7	3.0	4.8	10.0	6.7
6.3.2 Fuel and Power	11.5	1.8	1.7	3.4	3.4
6.3.3 Manufactured Products	3.7	2.8	2.3	0.3	0.4
7 Foreign Trade (% Change)					
7.1 Imports	10.4	1.9	-3.4	-0.7	2.5
7.2 Exports	8.7	3.9	3.2	-1.6	2.9

Note : Financial Benchmark India Pvt. Ltd. (FBIL) has commenced publication of the G-Sec benchmarks with effect from March 31, 2018 as per RBI circular FMRD.DIRD.7/14.03.025/2017-18 dated March 31, 2018. FBIL has started dissemination of reference rates w.e.f. July 10, 2018.

Reserve Bank of India

No. 2: RBI - Liabilities and Assets *

(₹ Crore)

Item	As on the Last Friday/ Friday						
	2019-20	2019	2020				
		Mar.	Feb. 28	Mar. 6	Mar. 13	Mar. 20	Mar. 27
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1 Issue Department							
1.1 Liabilities							
1.1.1 Notes in Circulation	2412993	2113764	2321924	2347848	2373668	2383278	2412993
1.1.2 Notes held in Banking Department	10	11	13	14	13	11	10
1.1/1.2 Total Liabilities (Total Notes Issued) or Assets	2413003	2113775	2321937	2347862	2373681	2383289	2413003
1.2 Assets							
1.2.1 Gold Coin and Bullion	103439	79481	100833	103496	98308	93661	103439
1.2.2 Foreign Securities	2308718	2033559	2220225	2243498	2274517	2288781	2308718
1.2.3 Rupee Coin	846	735	879	868	856	847	846
1.2.4 Government of India Rupee Securities	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2 Banking Department							
2.1 Liabilities							
2.1.1 Deposits	1187409	806012	990618	1028839	1011050	1027741	1187409
2.1.1.1 Central Government	100	101	100	101	101	101	100
2.1.1.2 Market Stabilisation Scheme	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2.1.1.3 State Governments	43	43	42	42	42	42	43
2.1.1.4 Scheduled Commercial Banks	536186	565707	550033	570358	551020	591163	536186
2.1.1.5 Scheduled State Co-operative Banks	7603	4197	6739	6843	6781	6901	7603
2.1.1.6 Non-Scheduled State Co-operative Banks	3445	3494	3132	3151	3046	3165	3445
2.1.1.7 Other Banks	32641	32036	31600	31701	31982	32110	32641
2.1.1.8 Others	605100	199734	398150	414318	414615	391944	605100
2.1.1.9 Financial Institution Outside India	2291	700	822	2325	3463	2315	2291
2.1.2 Other Liabilities	1350333	1087686	1219283	1347892	1314453	1300857	1350333
2.1/2.2 Total Liabilities or Assets	2537742	1893698	2209901	2376731	2325503	2328598	2537742
2.2 Assets							
2.2.1 Notes and Coins	10	11	13	14	13	11	10
2.2.2 Balances held Abroad	1006357	646640	1022250	1108603	1061825	1020444	1006357
2.2.3 Loans and Advances							
2.2.3.1 Central Government	50477	–	5081	32976	20553	–	50477
2.2.3.2 State Governments	1967	10	2882	7239	6154	2339	1967
2.2.3.3 Scheduled Commercial Banks	285623	180688	54186	84559	105035	175754	285623
2.2.3.4 Scheduled State Co-op. Banks	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2.2.3.5 Industrial Dev. Bank of India	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2.2.3.6 NABARD	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2.2.3.7 EXIM Bank	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2.2.3.8 Others	10064	13463	1815	1815	1815	2385	10064
2.2.3.9 Financial Institution Outside India	2300	700	10336	9090	2269	2301	2300
2.2.4 Bills Purchased and Discounted							
2.2.4.1 Internal	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2.2.4.2 Government Treasury Bills	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2.2.5 Investments	1042951	923080	983802	998435	998469	999964	1042951
2.2.6 Other Assets	137993	129106	129535	134000	129370	125400	137993
2.2.6.1 Gold	127644	87169	120566	125071	119743	115577	127644

* Data are provisional

No. 3: Liquidity Operations by RBI

(₹ Crore)

Date	Liquidity Adjustment Facility				MSF	Standing Liquidity Facilities	Market Stabilisation Scheme	OMO (Outright)		Long Term Repo Operations	Net Injection (+)/ Absorption (-) (1+3+5+6+9+10-2-4-7-8)	
	Repo	Reverse Repo	Variable Rate Repo	Variable Rate Reverse Repo				Sale	Purchase			
	1	2	3	4				5	6			7
Feb. 1, 2020	1505	21197	-	-	4765	-	-	-	-	-	-	-14927
Feb. 2, 2020	-	16	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-16
Feb. 3, 2020	3099	72443	-	210011	4666	-	-	-	-	-	-	-274689
Feb. 4, 2020	3309	72421	5020	175010	3750	-	-	-	-	-	-	-235352
Feb. 5, 2020	2939	42280	-	190013	2802	-	-	-	-	-	-	-226552
Feb. 6, 2020	2934	54744	-	190027	4290	-	-	-	-	-	-	-237547
Feb. 7, 2020	2944	68933	6000	140016	3200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-196805
Feb. 8, 2020	-	20	-	-	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	180
Feb. 9, 2020	-	674	-	-	150	-	-	-	-	-	-	-524
Feb. 10, 2020	3080	59552	-	140026	4280	-	-	-	-	-	-	-192218
Feb. 11, 2020	2150	43473	-	150020	1530	274	-	-	-	-	-	-189539
Feb. 12, 2020	2135	55624	-	120016	4080	-	-	-	-	-	-	-169425
Feb. 13, 2020	1895	69683	-	140016	3310	-	-	-	-	-	-	-204494
Feb. 14, 2020	-	77970	-	112429	4426	-	-	-	-	-	-	-185973
Feb. 15, 2020	-	18615	-	-	860	-	-	-	-	-	-	-17755
Feb. 16, 2020	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-13
Feb. 17, 2020	-	92753	-	-	2950	317	-	-	-	25035	-	-64451
Feb. 18, 2020	-	64590	-	-	2715	-190	-	-	-	-	-	-62065
Feb. 19, 2020	-	11331	-	-	1255	-	-	-	-	-	-	-10076
Feb. 20, 2020	-	39983	-	-	4065	190	-	-	-	-	-	-35728
Feb. 21, 2020	-	10582	-	-	8109	-	-	-	-	-	-	-2473
Feb. 22, 2020	-	30	-	-	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Feb. 23, 2020	-	1822	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-1822
Feb. 24, 2020	-	59168	-	-	3177	-	-	-	-	25021	-	-30970
Feb. 25, 2020	-	136776	-	-	3300	-	-	-	-	-	-	-133476
Feb. 26, 2020	-	140443	-	-	3080	-432	-	-	-	-	-	-137795
Feb. 27, 2020	-	156264	-	-	4534	-217	-	-	-	-	-	-151947
Feb. 28, 2020	-	131050	-	162725	4130	-	-	-	-	-	-	-289645
Feb. 29, 2020	-	28429	-	-	6467	-	-	-	-	-	-	-21962

No. 4: Sale/ Purchase of U.S. Dollar by the RBI

i) Operations in onshore / offshore OTC segment

Item	2018-19	2019	2020	
		Feb.	Jan.	Feb.
	1	2	3	4
1 Net Purchase/ Sale of Foreign Currency (US \$ Million) (1.1-1.2)	-15377	825	10266	9144
1.1 Purchase (+)	40804	2086	11486	10604
1.2 Sale (-)	56181	1261	1220	1460
2 ₹ equivalent at contract rate (₹ Crores)	-111946	5404	72793	64883
3 Cumulative (over end-March) (US \$ Million)	-15377	-24785	40007	49151
(₹ Crores)	-111945	-176910	278096	342979
4 Outstanding Net Forward Sales (-)/ Purchase (+) at the end of month (US \$ Million)	-13774	-4372	-1215	-2295

ii) Operations in currency futures segment

Item	2018-19	2019	2020	
		Feb.	Jan.	Feb.
	1	2	3	4
1 Net Purchase/ Sale of Foreign Currency (US \$ Million) (1.1-1.2)	0	0	0	0
1.1 Purchase (+)	13935	233	400	0
1.2 Sale (-)	13935	233	400	0
2 Outstanding Net Currency Futures Sales (-)/ Purchase (+) at the end of month (US \$ Million)	0	-300	0	0

No. 4 A : Maturity Breakdown (by Residual Maturity) of Outstanding Forwards of RBI (US \$ Million)

Item	As on February 29, 2020		
	Long (+)	Short (-)	Net (1-2)
	1	2	3
1. Upto 1 month	1854	0	1854
2. More than 1 month and upto 3 months	519	0	519
3. More than 3 months and upto 1 year	7057	1705	5352
4. More than 1 year	0	10020	-10020
Total (1+2+3+4)	9430	11725	-2295

No. 5: RBI's Standing Facilities

(₹ Crore)

Item	As on the Last Reporting Friday							
	2019-20	2019				2020		
		Mar. 29	Oct. 25	Nov. 22	Dec. 20	Jan. 31	Feb. 28	Mar. 27
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1 MSF	1262	12882	4373	3231	3856	2340	4130	1262
2 Export Credit Refinance for Scheduled Banks								
2.1 Limit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2.2 Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 Liquidity Facility for PDs								
3.1 Limit	10000	2800	2800	2800	2800	2800	2800	10000
3.2 Outstanding	4782	2678	1884	1604	1615	1872	1815	4782
4 Others								
4.1 Limit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.2 Outstanding	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 Total Outstanding (1+2.2+3.2+4.2)	6044	15560	6257	4835	5471	4212	5945	6044

Money and Banking

No. 6: Money Stock Measures

(₹ Crore)

Item	Outstanding as on March 31/last reporting Fridays of the month/reporting Fridays				
	2018-19	2019	2020		
		Feb. 15	Jan. 31	Feb. 14	Feb. 28
	1	2	3	4	5
1 Currency with the Public (1.1 + 1.2 + 1.3 – 1.4)	2052209	2029451	2218775	2257855	2255426
1.1 Notes in Circulation	2110883	2079892	2284695	2320416	2321924
1.2 Circulation of Rupee Coin	25144	25080	25537	25537	25572
1.3 Circulation of Small Coins	743	743	743	743	743
1.4 Cash on Hand with Banks	84561	76265	92199	88840	92812
2 Deposit Money of the Public	1658254	1427467	1588103	1514641	1613427
2.1 Demand Deposits with Banks	1626512	1401265	1554247	1481214	1578869
2.2 'Other' Deposits with Reserve Bank	31742	26202	33856	33427	34558
3 M₁ (1 + 2)	3710464	3456918	3806879	3772496	3868854
4 Post Office Saving Bank Deposits	140599	134863	141786	141786	141786
5 M₂ (3 + 4)	3851063	3591781	3948665	3914282	4010640
6 Time Deposits with Banks	11721603	11482901	12611745	12587868	12590123
7 M₃ (3 + 6)	15432067	14939818	16418624	16360364	16458977
8 Total Post Office Deposits	367287	357952	409246	409246	409246
9 M₄ (7 + 8)	15799354	15297770	16827870	16769610	16868223

No. 7: Sources of Money Stock (M₃)

(₹ Crore)

Sources	Outstanding as on March 31/last reporting Fridays of the month/reporting Fridays				
	2018-19	2019	2020		
			Feb. 15	Jan. 31	Feb. 14
	1	2	3	4	5
1 Net Bank Credit to Government	4388490	4433410	5014594	5004051	4983904
1.1 RBI's net credit to Government (1.1.1-1.1.2)	801951	873047	1057037	997547	990539
1.1.1 Claims on Government	929686	875548	1057180	997690	990681
1.1.1.1 Central Government	928166	871456	1055970	989289	987799
1.1.1.2 State Governments	1520	4092	1210	8401	2882
1.1.2 Government deposits with RBI	127735	2501	143	143	142
1.1.2.1 Central Government	127693	2459	101	101	100
1.1.2.2 State Governments	42	42	42	42	42
1.2 Other Banks' Credit to Government	3586539	3560363	3957557	4006504	3993365
2 Bank Credit to Commercial Sector	10382719	10038752	10756819	10695015	10759445
2.1 RBI's credit to commercial sector	15363	8068	6380	4110	3779
2.2 Other banks' credit to commercial sector	10367356	10030684	10750439	10690905	10755666
2.2.1 Bank credit by commercial banks	9771722	9440366	10105180	10042583	10104866
2.2.2 Bank credit by co-operative banks	585931	581722	632356	632404	633477
2.2.3 Investments by commercial and co-operative banks in other securities	9703	8596	12903	15918	17323
3 Net Foreign Exchange Assets of Banking Sector (3.1 + 3.2)	3070841	2964287	3559574	3604871	3681669
3.1 RBI's net foreign exchange assets (3.1.1-3.1.2)	2848587	2835016	3351074	3396371	3473169
3.1.1 Gross foreign assets	2848800	2835241	3351293	3396590	3473388
3.1.2 Foreign liabilities	213	225	219	219	219
3.2 Other banks' net foreign exchange assets	222254	129271	208500	208500	208500
4 Government's Currency Liabilities to the Public	25887	25823	26280	26280	26315
5 Banking Sector's Net Non-monetary Liabilities	2435870	2522454	2938643	2969853	2992356
5.1 Net non-monetary liabilities of RBI	1058795	1146678	1158386	1152770	1214879
5.2 Net non-monetary liabilities of other banks (residual)	1377075	1375776	1780257	1817083	1777477
M₃ (1+2+3+4-5)	15432067	14939818	16418624	16360364	16458977

No. 8: Monetary Survey

(₹ Crore)

Item	Outstanding as on March 31/last reporting Fridays of the month/reporting Fridays				
	2018-19	2020			
		Feb. 15	Jan. 31	Feb. 14	Feb. 28
	1	2	3	4	5
Monetary Aggregates					
NM ₁ (1.1 + 1.2.1+1.3)	3710464	3456918	3806879	3772496	3868854
NM ₂ (NM ₁ + 1.2.2.1)	8911512	8554285	9402185	9357114	9454268
NM ₃ (NM ₂ + 1.2.2.2 + 1.4 = 2.1 + 2.2 + 2.3 – 2.4 – 2.5)	15646602	15145553	16552195	16492262	16589311
1 Components					
1.1 Currency with the Public	2052209	2029451	2218775	2257855	2255426
1.2 Aggregate Deposits of Residents	13184397	12728747	13988261	13891476	13990902
1.2.1 Demand Deposits	1626512	1401265	1554247	1481214	1578869
1.2.2 Time Deposits of Residents	11557885	11327482	12434014	12410262	12412032
1.2.2.1 Short-term Time Deposits	5201048	5097367	5595306	5584618	5585414
1.2.2.1.1 Certificates of Deposit (CDs)	284993	217306	176959	181741	181028
1.2.2.2 Long-term Time Deposits	6356837	6230115	6838708	6825644	6826618
1.3 'Other' Deposits with RBI	31742	26202	33856	33427	34558
1.4 Call/Term Funding from Financial Institutions	378254	361153	311303	309504	308425
2 Sources					
2.1 Domestic Credit	15659336	15342465	16647197	16578426	16620023
2.1.1 Net Bank Credit to the Government	4388490	4433410	5014594	5004051	4983904
2.1.1.1 Net RBI credit to the Government	801951	873047	1057037	997547	990539
2.1.1.2 Credit to the Government by the Banking System	3586539	3560363	3957557	4006504	3993365
2.1.2 Bank Credit to the Commercial Sector	11270846	10909055	11632603	11574375	11636120
2.1.2.1 RBI Credit to the Commercial Sector	15363	8068	6380	4110	3779
2.1.2.2 Credit to the Commercial Sector by the Banking System	11255483	10900987	11626223	11570265	11632341
2.1.2.2.1 Other Investments (Non-SLR Securities)	879849	858172	865080	866242	866695
2.2 Government's Currency Liabilities to the Public	25887	25823	26280	26280	26315
2.3 Net Foreign Exchange Assets of the Banking Sector	2801726	2755358	3307262	3341921	3438198
2.3.1 Net Foreign Exchange Assets of the RBI	2848587	2835016	3351074	3396371	3473169
2.3.2 Net Foreign Currency Assets of the Banking System	-46861	-79658	-43812	-54450	-34971
2.4 Capital Account	2346743	2387793	2497037	2497836	2545604
2.5 Other items (net)	493605	590301	931507	956529	949621

No. 9: Liquidity Aggregates

(₹ Crore)

Aggregates	2018-19	2019		2020	
		Feb.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
	1	2	3	4	5
1 NM₃	15646602	15145553	16203315	16552195	16589311
2 Postal Deposits	367287	357952	409246	409246	409246
3 L₁ (1 + 2)	16013889	15503505	16612561	16961441	16998557
4 Liabilities of Financial Institutions	2932	2932	54287	56400	57964
4.1 Term Money Borrowings	2656	2656	3078	2976	2851
4.2 Certificates of Deposit	31	31	46887	49631	51556
4.3 Term Deposits	245	245	4322	3793	3557
5 L₂ (3 + 4)	16016821	15506437	16666848	17017841	17056522
6 Public Deposits with Non-Banking Financial Companies	31905	..	31905
7 L₃ (5 + 6)	16048726	..	16698753

Note : Since November 2019, updated data on liabilities of financial institutions have been incorporated in this table, and hence, are not comparable with past data

No. 10: Reserve Bank of India Survey

(₹ Crore)

Item	Outstanding as on March 31/last reporting Fridays of the month/reporting Fridays				
	2018-19	2019	2020		
			Feb. 15	Jan. 31	Feb. 14
	1	2	3	4	5
1 Components					
1.1 Currency in Circulation	2136770	2105715	2310975	2346696	2348239
1.2 Bankers' Deposits with the RBI	601969	526238	592254	597724	591504
1.2.1 Scheduled Commercial Banks	558496	491843	550704	556182	550033
1.3 'Other' Deposits with the RBI	31742	26202	33856	33427	34558
Reserve Money (1.1 + 1.2 + 1.3 = 2.1 + 2.2 + 2.3 - 2.4 - 2.5)	2770481	2658155	2937085	2977847	2974301
2 Sources					
2.1 RBI's Domestic Credit	954802	943994	718117	707966	689696
2.1.1 Net RBI credit to the Government	801951	873047	1057037	997547	990539
2.1.1.1 Net RBI credit to the Central Government (2.1.1.1.1 + 2.1.1.1.2 + 2.1.1.1.3 + 2.1.1.1.4 - 2.1.1.1.5)	800473	868997	1055869	989188	987699
2.1.1.1.1 Loans and Advances to the Central Government	-	-	73545	6817	5081
2.1.1.1.2 Investments in Treasury Bills	-	-	-	-	-
2.1.1.1.3 Investments in dated Government Securities	927427	870671	981706	981772	981839
2.1.1.1.3.1 Central Government Securities	927427	870671	981706	981772	981839
2.1.1.1.4 Rupee Coins	739	785	719	700	879
2.1.1.1.5 Deposits of the Central Government	127693	2459	101	101	100
2.1.1.2 Net RBI credit to State Governments	1478	4050	1168	8359	2840
2.1.2 RBI's Claims on Banks	137488	62879	-345300	-293691	-304622
2.1.2.1 Loans and Advances to Scheduled Commercial Banks	137488	62879	-345300	-293691	-304622
2.1.3 RBI's Credit to Commercial Sector	15363	8068	6380	4110	3779
2.1.3.1 Loans and Advances to Primary Dealers	2678	1794	1872	2146	1815
2.1.3.2 Loans and Advances to NABARD	-	-	-	-	-
2.2 Government's Currency Liabilities to the Public	25887	25823	26280	26280	26315
2.3 Net Foreign Exchange Assets of the RBI	2848587	2835016	3351074	3396371	3473169
2.3.1 Gold	159585	161705	206919	207871	221399
2.3.2 Foreign Currency Assets	2689019	2673328	3144172	3188517	3251787
2.4 Capital Account	970265	1052936	1010660	1003528	1047453
2.5 Other Items (net)	88530	93742	147726	149242	167426

No. 11: Reserve Money - Components and Sources

(₹ Crore)

Item	2018-19	Outstanding as on March 31/ last Fridays of the month/ Fridays					
		2019	2020				
			Mar. 1	Jan. 31	Feb. 7	Feb. 14	Feb. 21
		1	2	3	4	5	6
Reserve Money (1.1 + 1.2 + 1.3 = 2.1 + 2.2 + 2.3 + 2.4 + 2.5 - 2.6)	2770481	2665502	2937085	2944049	2977847	2977471	2974301
1 Components							
1.1 Currency in Circulation	2136770	2106053	2310975	2337525	2346696	2357702	2348239
1.2 Bankers' Deposits with RBI	601969	531841	592254	573077	597724	586330	591504
1.3 'Other' Deposits with RBI	31742	27608	33856	33447	33427	33439	34558
2 Sources							
2.1 Net Reserve Bank Credit to Government	801951	914062	1057037	1015557	997547	934452	990539
2.2 Reserve Bank Credit to Banks	137488	18846	-345300	-319642	-293691	-233023	-304622
2.3 Reserve Bank Credit to Commercial Sector	15363	7869	6380	6380	4110	4427	3779
2.4 Net Foreign Exchange Assets of RBI	2848587	2845742	3351074	3369143	3396371	3408531	3473169
2.5 Government's Currency Liabilities to the Public	25887	25841	26280	26280	26280	26280	26315
2.6 Net Non- Monetary Liabilities of RBI	1058795	1146858	1158386	1153669	1152770	1163196	1214879

No. 12: Commercial Bank Survey

(₹ Crore)

Item	Outstanding as on last reporting Fridays of the month/ reporting Fridays of the month				
	2018-19	2019	2020		
		Feb. 15	Jan. 31	Feb. 14	Feb. 28
	1	2	3	4	5
1 Components					
1.1 Aggregate Deposits of Residents	12410053	11964048	13146270	13048689	13148127
1.1.1 Demand Deposits	1511287	1287716	1436076	1363045	1459926
1.1.2 Time Deposits of Residents	10898766	10676332	11710195	11685644	11688201
1.1.2.1 Short-term Time Deposits	4904445	4804349	5269588	5258540	5259691
1.1.2.1.1 Certificates of Deposits (CDs)	284993	217306	176959	181741	181028
1.1.2.2 Long-term Time Deposits	5994321	5871983	6440607	6427104	6428511
1.2 Call/Term Funding from Financial Institutions	378254	361153	311303	309504	308425
2 Sources					
2.1 Domestic Credit	14032206	13656825	14707970	14702800	14751128
2.1.1 Credit to the Government	3379001	3353658	3730741	3781730	3769059
2.1.2 Credit to the Commercial Sector	10653205	10303167	10977229	10921070	10982069
2.1.2.1 Bank Credit	9771722	9440366	10105180	10042583	10104866
2.1.2.1.1 Non-food Credit	9730112	9378626	10026280	9969259	10039270
2.1.2.2 Net Credit to Primary Dealers	8542	12395	10967	13381	10242
2.1.2.3 Investments in Other Approved Securities	2055	1197	4965	7826	9227
2.1.2.4 Other Investments (in non-SLR Securities)	870886	849209	856117	857279	857733
2.2 Net Foreign Currency Assets of Commercial Banks (2.2.1–2.2.2–2.2.3)	-46861	-79658	-43812	-54450	-34971
2.2.1 Foreign Currency Assets	262383	209924	242206	231596	250745
2.2.2 Non-resident Foreign Currency Repatriable Fixed Deposits	163719	155418	177731	177606	178091
2.2.3 Overseas Foreign Currency Borrowings	145526	134164	108287	108440	107625
2.3 Net Bank Reserves (2.3.1+2.3.2–2.3.3)	538104	495597	977850	928470	937016
2.3.1 Balances with the RBI	565707	491843	550704	556182	550033
2.3.2 Cash in Hand	74877	66633	81846	78597	82361
2.3.3 Loans and Advances from the RBI	102480	62879	-345300	-293691	-304622
2.4 Capital Account	1352307	1310686	1462206	1470137	1473980
2.5 Other items (net) (2.1+2.2+2.3–2.4–1.1–1.2)	382835	436879	722229	748490	722640
2.5.1 Other Demand and Time Liabilities (net of 2.2.3)	398120	382532	435464	446706	476507
2.5.2 Net Inter-Bank Liabilities (other than to PDs)	-47846	-52455	54049	59841	72117

No. 13: Scheduled Commercial Banks' Investments

(₹ Crore)

Item	As on March 29, 2019	2019	2020		
		Feb. 15	Jan. 31	Feb. 14	Feb. 28
	1	2	3	4	5
	1 SLR Securities	3381056	3354855	3735514	3789557
2 Commercial Paper	90362	96474	94533	95824	99608
3 Shares issued by					
3.1 PSUs	11535	11582	12172	13736	13690
3.2 Private Corporate Sector	69592	72073	67153	66482	66287
3.3 Others	6379	6206	5558	5769	5766
4 Bonds/Debentures issued by					
4.1 PSUs	134819	119458	128910	123720	119187
4.2 Private Corporate Sector	268783	253407	230608	227140	223145
4.3 Others	170047	139359	191035	191213	196377
5 Instruments issued by					
5.1 Mutual funds	20988	56962	42463	49038	47629
5.2 Financial institutions	98382	93653	79815	83567	85261

No. 14: Business in India - All Scheduled Banks and All Scheduled Commercial Banks

(₹ Crore)

Item	As on the Last Reporting Friday (in case of March)/ Last Friday							
	All Scheduled Banks				All Scheduled Commercial Banks			
	2018-19	2019	2020		2018-19	2019	2020	
		Feb.	Jan.	Feb.		Feb.	Jan.	Feb.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Number of Reporting Banks	222	222	219	219	147	148	142	142
1 Liabilities to the Banking System	276350	255093	279961	328972	271426	250568	274771	323775
1.1 Demand and Time Deposits from Banks	181651	160954	199889	233067	176828	156578	194935	228063
1.2 Borrowings from Banks	79487	85131	66900	82676	79459	85065	66868	82635
1.3 Other Demand and Time Liabilities	15212	9007	13172	13229	15139	8925	12968	13078
2 Liabilities to Others	13835976	13293386	14598202	14638332	13495672	12963744	14179034	14218776
2.1 Aggregate Deposits	12901579	12409475	13726481	13728836	12573772	12093293	13324001	13326218
2.1.1 Demand	1542554	1294188	1463589	1493527	1511287	1265310	1431011	1459926
2.1.2 Time	11359025	11115286	12262891	12235309	11062484	10827984	11892990	11866292
2.2 Borrowings	381864	368985	315590	312624	378254	364724	311303	308425
2.3 Other Demand and Time Liabilities	552533	514926	556132	596871	543646	505726	543730	584132
3 Borrowings from Reserve Bank	180688	147395	16915	54186	180688	147395	16915	54186
3.1 Against Usance Bills /Promissory Notes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.2 Others	180688	147395	16915	54186	180688	147395	16915	54186
4 Cash in Hand and Balances with Reserve Bank	657555	588437	650927	650830	640584	574417	632549	632394
4.1 Cash in Hand	76554	72783	84191	84805	74877	71081	81845	82361
4.2 Balances with Reserve Bank	581001	515654	566736	566024	565707	503336	550704	550033
5 Assets with the Banking System	372670	370684	290256	320156	327814	318085	231623	261901
5.1 Balances with Other Banks	245880	238124	178084	192006	223048	217043	151373	165994
5.1.1 In Current Account	17216	13973	24273	35928	13329	11236	21376	33287
5.1.2 In Other Accounts	228663	224150	153811	156077	209719	205807	129997	132706
5.2 Money at Call and Short Notice	47047	54887	37079	36790	32252	31210	20180	18239
5.3 Advances to Banks	32950	34858	32315	34050	29635	30546	24959	27488
5.4 Other Assets	46793	42816	42777	57311	42879	39286	35111	50180
6 Investment	3475607	3436578	3849568	3890053	3381056	3342703	3735514	3778286
6.1 Government Securities	3467845	3430053	3838797	3874670	3379001	3341633	3730741	3769059
6.2 Other Approved Securities	7762	6525	10771	15383	2055	1070	4773	9227
7 Bank Credit	10047125	9729542	10431745	10433183	9771722	9449740	10105176	10104866
7a Food Credit	64636	82341	108222	94717	41610	59314	78899	65596
7.1 Loans, Cash-credits and Overdrafts	9792287	9494882	10214455	10212972	9521994	9220045	9891378	9887932
7.2 Inland Bills-Purchased	27641	24082	25518	26051	26223	22613	24595	25463
7.3 Inland Bills-Discounted	160984	148922	136629	141937	158296	146336	135171	140341
7.4 Foreign Bills-Purchased	24914	23122	23000	21734	24588	22798	22422	21239
7.5 Foreign Bills-Discounted	41299	38534	32142	30489	40622	37949	31611	29892

No. 15: Deployment of Gross Bank Credit by Major Sectors

(₹ Crore)

Item	Outstanding as on				Growth (%)	
	Mar. 29, 2019	2019	2020		Financial year so far 2019-20	Y-o-Y 2020
			Feb. 15	Jan. 31		
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1 Gross Bank Credit	8674893	8368057	8978800	8980095	3.5	7.3
1.1 Food Credit	41474	61535	78664	65384	57.7	6.3
1.2 Non-food Credit	8633419	8306522	8900136	8914711	3.3	7.3
1.2.1 Agriculture & Allied Activities	1111300	1092771	1153386	1155990	4.0	5.8
1.2.2 Industry	2885778	2774257	2817525	2792812	-3.2	0.7
1.2.2.1 Micro & Small	375505	372659	373050	371333	-1.1	-0.4
1.2.2.2 Medium	106395	103444	106813	107502	1.0	3.9
1.2.2.3 Large	2403878	2298154	2337662	2313977	-3.7	0.7
1.2.3 Services	2415609	2276196	2431975	2433858	0.8	6.9
1.2.3.1 Transport Operators	138524	134940	141293	142127	2.6	5.3
1.2.3.2 Computer Software	18535	19177	18775	19205	3.6	0.1
1.2.3.3 Tourism, Hotels & Restaurants	39005	38636	45394	45184	15.8	16.9
1.2.3.4 Shipping	7748	7400	6682	6527	-15.8	-11.8
1.2.3.5 Professional Services	171517	178078	172686	172907	0.8	-2.9
1.2.3.6 Trade	528158	504664	519547	538608	2.0	6.7
1.2.3.6.1 Wholesale Trade	250528	224291	237341	254833	1.7	13.6
1.2.3.6.2 Retail Trade	277630	280372	282206	283775	2.2	1.2
1.2.3.7 Commercial Real Estate	202291	198755	227266	228826	13.1	15.1
1.2.3.8 Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)	641208	575401	737198	703667	9.7	22.3
1.2.3.9 Other Services	668623	619146	563134	576807	-13.7	-6.8
1.2.4 Personal Loans	2220732	2163298	2497250	2532051	14.0	17.0
1.2.4.1 Consumer Durables	6299	4528	6453	6495	3.1	43.4
1.2.4.2 Housing	1160111	1134906	1316481	1328991	14.6	17.1
1.2.4.3 Advances against Fixed Deposits	82873	70600	67240	75469	-8.9	6.9
1.2.4.4 Advances to Individuals against share & bond	6265	5862	5185	5183	-17.3	-11.6
1.2.4.5 Credit Card Outstanding	88262	83401	110864	110946	25.7	33.0
1.2.4.6 Education	67988	68891	67038	66563	-2.1	-3.4
1.2.4.7 Vehicle Loans	202154	200470	220240	221129	9.4	10.3
1.2.4.8 Other Personal Loans	606780	594640	703749	717275	18.2	20.6
1.2A Priority Sector	2739021	2682926	2772197	2690428	-1.8	0.3
1.2A.1 Agriculture & Allied Activities	1104988	1086322	1142576	1145063	3.6	5.4
1.2A.2 Micro & Small Enterprises	1067175	1026613	1100615	1095182	2.6	6.7
1.2A.2.1 Manufacturing	375505	372659	373050	371333	-1.1	-0.4
1.2A.2.2 Services	691670	653954	727566	723849	4.7	10.7
1.2A.3 Housing	432703	433224	461089	460496	6.4	6.3
1.2A.4 Micro-Credit	24101	24294	36176	36477	51.4	50.1
1.2A.5 Education Loans	53950	56297	53101	52692	-2.3	-6.4
1.2A.6 State-Sponsored Orgs. for SC/ST	397	389	413	115	-71.0	-70.4
1.2A.7 Weaker Sections	662628	614877	715057	701304	5.8	14.1
1.2A.8 Export Credit	15566	16506	13503	14325	-8.0	-13.2

No. 16: Industry-wise Deployment of Gross Bank Credit

(₹ Crore)

Industry	Outstanding as on				Growth (%)	
	Mar. 29, 2019	2019	2020		Financial year so far	Y-o-Y
		Feb. 15	Jan. 31	Feb. 28		
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1 Industry	2885778	2774257	2817525	2792812	-3.2	0.7
1.1 Mining & Quarrying (incl. Coal)	41752	41513	41886	41600	-0.4	0.2
1.2 Food Processing	157058	154724	150279	149851	-4.6	-3.1
1.2.1 Sugar	29705	28365	26288	26623	-10.4	-6.1
1.2.2 Edible Oils & Vanaspati	21343	21437	20745	19461	-8.8	-9.2
1.2.3 Tea	4966	4988	5438	5290	6.5	6.1
1.2.4 Others	101044	99934	97808	98476	-2.5	-1.5
1.3 Beverage & Tobacco	14662	14586	14991	15063	2.7	3.3
1.4 Textiles	203549	201291	190108	188067	-7.6	-6.6
1.4.1 Cotton Textiles	97726	96331	87850	86276	-11.7	-10.4
1.4.2 Jute Textiles	2119	2146	2198	2117	-0.1	-1.4
1.4.3 Man-Made Textiles	26748	26565	26017	25822	-3.5	-2.8
1.4.4 Other Textiles	76956	76249	74043	73852	-4.0	-3.1
1.5 Leather & Leather Products	11071	10972	10882	10720	-3.2	-2.3
1.6 Wood & Wood Products	11968	11759	12205	12102	1.1	2.9
1.7 Paper & Paper Products	30319	30202	31085	30607	0.9	1.3
1.8 Petroleum, Coal Products & Nuclear Fuels	63136	55691	55622	58679	-7.1	5.4
1.9 Chemicals & Chemical Products	191484	182988	183048	184239	-3.8	0.7
1.9.1 Fertiliser	40043	28262	34535	37028	-7.5	31.0
1.9.2 Drugs & Pharmaceuticals	50500	50742	52072	50685	0.4	-0.1
1.9.3 Petro Chemicals	46717	50913	40697	40188	-14.0	-21.1
1.9.4 Others	54224	53071	55744	56339	3.9	6.2
1.10 Rubber, Plastic & their Products	45803	45221	49254	48752	6.4	7.8
1.11 Glass & Glassware	9887	9976	8678	8494	-14.1	-14.9
1.12 Cement & Cement Products	55683	55041	57715	56634	1.7	2.9
1.13 Basic Metal & Metal Product	371564	370686	335104	333597	-10.2	-10.0
1.13.1 Iron & Steel	282878	285119	252173	250942	-11.3	-12.0
1.13.2 Other Metal & Metal Product	88686	85567	82931	82655	-6.8	-3.4
1.14 All Engineering	168621	163229	157586	155428	-7.8	-4.8
1.14.1 Electronics	37856	37520	33594	32900	-13.1	-12.3
1.14.2 Others	130765	125709	123992	122528	-6.3	-2.5
1.15 Vehicles, Vehicle Parts & Transport Equipment	79859	79885	79793	79111	-0.9	-1.0
1.16 Gems & Jewellery	72014	71051	59841	59147	-17.9	-16.8
1.17 Construction	99473	95900	105113	103972	4.5	8.4
1.18 Infrastructure	1055921	986557	1036852	1018749	-3.5	3.3
1.18.1 Power	568966	554411	559305	538993	-5.3	-2.8
1.18.2 Telecommunications	115585	91490	136080	141171	22.1	54.3
1.18.3 Roads	186852	189183	192232	186148	-0.4	-1.6
1.18.4 Other Infrastructure	184518	151473	149235	152437	-17.4	0.6
1.19 Other Industries	201954	192985	237483	238000	17.8	23.3

No. 17: State Co-operative Banks Maintaining Accounts with the Reserve Bank of India

(₹ Crore)

Item	Last Reporting Friday (in case of March)/Last Friday/ Reporting Friday								
	2018-19	2019					2020		
		Jan, 25	Nov, 29	Dec, 06	Dec, 20	Dec, 27	Jan, 03	Jan, 17	Jan, 31
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Number of Reporting Banks	32	31	31	30	30	30	30	30	30
1 Aggregate Deposits (2.1.1.2+2.2.1.2)	62003.4	55265.2	66211.7	122809.6	123291.7	123179.7	123700.8	124215.1	122402.4
2 Demand and Time Liabilities									
2.1 Demand Liabilities	18241.3	17411.0	18712.1	23045.1	24293.2	23483.5	24516.6	23862.0	22274.8
2.1.1 Deposits									
2.1.1.1 Inter-Bank	5842.3	4871.2	5353.2	4226.5	3973.9	4316.8	4705.0	4426.1	4194.1
2.1.1.2 Others	9,808.6	9022.5	10206.8	12582.4	13224.2	13180.2	13478.7	12911.9	11625.8
2.1.2 Borrowings from Banks	0.0	869.9	0.0	0.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	40.0
2.1.3 Other Demand Liabilities	2590.5	2647.4	3152.0	6236.2	7070.1	5986.4	6332.8	6524.0	6414.9
2.2 Time Liabilities	98531.4	88354.4	113699.8	160651.0	162694.5	162534.0	164398.3	166685.2	166326.7
2.2.1 Deposits									
2.2.1.1 Inter-Bank	45655.9	40850.1	56770.2	48880.0	51079.3	50938.9	52339.1	53874.8	54063.3
2.2.1.2 Others	52194.8	46242.6	56004.9	110227.2	110067.5	109999.5	110222.0	111303.1	110776.7
2.2.2 Borrowings from Banks	0.0	0.6	0.0	632.9	673.0	743.7	958.2	629.9	629.9
2.2.3 Other Time Liabilities	680.7	1261.1	924.7	910.8	874.7	851.9	878.9	877.4	856.7
3 Borrowing from Reserve Bank	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
4 Borrowings from a notified bank / Government	50375.4	51231.5	46823.1	46786.6	47670.2	48445.0	47721.8	46896.8	47300.4
4.1 Demand	16826.7	16883.7	13300.6	14149.6	14121.3	14382.0	14077.8	13830.6	13669.2
4.2 Time	33548.7	34347.8	33522.5	32636.9	33548.9	34063.0	33644.0	33066.2	33631.2
5 Cash in Hand and Balances with Reserve Bank	5721.0	4639.3	6016.7	6813.0	9236.7	8941.9	9369.9	9277.5	9090.9
5.1 Cash in Hand	319.1	293.9	309.6	856.6	770.4	712.5	709.1	727.2	756.6
5.2 Balance with Reserve Bank	5401.9	4345.3	5707.1	5956.3	8466.3	8229.5	8660.9	8550.3	8334.2
6 Balances with Other Banks in Current Account	1543.2	846.9	747.1	1185.1	814.3	677.7	860.5	1050.5	1030.4
7 Investments in Government Securities	30885.3	31296.2	32995.3	48688.4	49795.3	49891.9	50062.6	49368.8	49622.6
8 Money at Call and Short Notice	16190.2	17404.1	20120.9	22024.8	23287.8	25021.1	22950.8	21965.6	19796.7
9 Bank Credit (10.1+11)	60089.8	57951.4	63661.0	98678.5	98692.2	100148.6	107241.7	101523.2	104233.2
10 Advances									
10.1 Loans, Cash-Credits and Overdrafts	60086.2	57948.4	63659.3	98678.0	98691.7	100148.1	107241.2	101522.7	104232.7
10.2 Due from Banks	82610.9	81270.1	80806.6	77427.8	77825.3	77214.1	70604.2	78326.2	78091.6
11 Bills Purchased and Discounted	3.7	3.0	1.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	27.2

Prices and Production

No. 18: Consumer Price Index (Base: 2012=100)

Group/Sub group	2018-19			Rural			Urban			Combined		
	Rural	Urban	Combined	Feb. '19	Jan. '20	Feb. '20	Feb. '19	Jan. '20	Feb. '20	Feb. '19	Jan. '20	Feb. '20
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1 Food and beverages	139.5	138.4	139.1	137.2	153.0	149.8	138.0	154.4	151.7	137.5	153.5	150.5
1.1 Cereals and products	137.7	137.2	137.5	136.8	143.7	144.2	139.4	145.6	146.2	137.6	144.3	144.8
1.2 Meat and fish	149.5	147.5	148.8	153.0	167.3	167.4	150.1	167.6	167.6	152.0	167.4	167.5
1.3 Egg	137.3	137.3	137.3	139.1	153.5	150.9	145.3	157.0	153.1	141.5	154.9	151.8
1.4 Milk and products	142.7	141.3	142.2	142.5	150.5	150.9	141.7	149.3	150.7	142.2	150.1	150.8
1.5 Oils and fats	124.0	117.6	121.6	124.1	132.0	133.7	118.4	126.3	127.3	122.0	129.9	131.3
1.6 Fruits	146.8	143.4	145.2	135.8	142.2	140.7	137.0	144.4	143.1	136.4	143.2	141.8
1.7 Vegetables	141.4	142.1	141.6	128.7	191.5	165.1	131.6	207.8	181.7	129.7	197.0	170.7
1.8 Pulses and products	124.1	115.3	121.1	121.5	141.1	141.8	119.9	139.1	139.6	121.0	140.4	141.1
1.9 Sugar and confectionery	111.9	110.8	111.5	108.3	113.8	113.1	110.4	114.8	114.6	109.0	114.1	113.6
1.10 Spices	138.8	140.7	139.4	139.2	151.6	152.8	140.8	149.5	150.4	139.7	150.9	152.0
1.11 Non-alcoholic beverages	134.9	127.5	131.8	137.4	139.7	140.1	128.3	131.1	131.5	133.6	136.1	136.5
1.12 Prepared meals, snacks, sweets	155.3	151.3	153.4	156.2	158.7	159.2	153.5	158.5	159.0	154.9	158.6	159.1
2 Pan, tobacco and intoxicants	159.4	162.9	160.4	162.8	168.6	169.4	164.9	170.8	172.0	163.4	169.2	170.1
3 Clothing and footwear	150.3	139.3	145.9	149.9	152.1	152.3	141.4	144.9	145.2	146.5	149.2	149.5
3.1 Clothing	151.2	141.0	147.2	150.5	152.8	153.0	143.3	147.0	147.3	147.7	150.5	150.8
3.2 Footwear	145.2	129.5	138.7	146.1	147.4	147.5	130.8	133.2	133.5	139.7	141.5	141.7
4 Housing	--	145.6	145.6	--	--	--	148.5	153.9	154.8	148.5	153.9	154.8
5 Fuel and light	147.0	129.3	140.3	145.3	150.4	152.2	127.1	135.1	138.9	138.4	144.6	147.2
6 Miscellaneous	138.6	131.1	134.9	142.2	148.1	148.4	132.4	138.4	138.4	137.4	143.4	143.6
6.1 Household goods and services	145.9	134.8	140.6	150.1	151.7	151.8	136.6	140.1	140.4	143.7	146.2	146.4
6.2 Health	143.5	135.5	140.5	149.9	155.7	156.2	138.5	143.8	144.4	145.6	151.2	151.7
6.3 Transport and communication	128.5	120.3	124.2	129.2	136.3	136.0	119.2	126.1	125.2	123.9	130.9	130.3
6.4 Recreation and amusement	140.4	130.3	134.7	143.4	150.1	150.4	132.2	137.2	137.7	137.1	142.8	143.2
6.5 Education	149.4	144.5	146.5	155.5	161.7	161.9	146.6	152.1	152.2	150.3	156.1	156.2
6.6 Personal care and effects	132.6	129.9	131.5	134.9	142.5	143.3	133.0	142.1	143.5	134.1	142.3	143.4
General Index (All Groups)	141.3	137.7	139.6	141.0	151.9	150.4	138.6	148.2	147.7	139.9	150.2	149.1

Source: National Statistical Office, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India.

No. 19: Other Consumer Price Indices

Item	Base Year	Linking Factor	2018-19	2019		2020	
				Feb.	Jan.	Jan.	Feb.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	6
1 Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers	2001	4.63	300	307	330	328	
2 Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labourers	1986-87	5.89	907	917	1016	1010	
3 Consumer Price Index for Rural Labourers	1986-87	-	915	925	1021	1016	

Source: Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India.

No. 20: Monthly Average Price of Gold and Silver in Mumbai

Item	2018-19	2019		2020	
		Feb.	Jan.	Jan.	Feb.
	1	2	3	4	
1 Standard Gold (₹ per 10 grams)	31193	33217	39984	41195	
2 Silver (₹ per kilogram)	38404	40059	46498	46567	

Source: India Bullion & Jewellers Association Ltd., Mumbai for Gold and Silver prices in Mumbai.

No. 21: Wholesale Price Index

(Base: 2011-12 = 100)

Commodities	Weight	2018-19	2019		2020	
			Feb.	Dec.	Jan. (P)	Feb. (P)
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1 ALL COMMODITIES	100.000	119.8	119.5	123.0	122.9	122.2
1.1 PRIMARY ARTICLES	22.618	134.2	134.1	148.9	147.2	143.1
1.1.1 FOOD ARTICLES	15.256	143.7	143.7	162.6	160.8	154.9
1.1.1.1 Food Grains (Cereals+Pulses)	3.462	146.7	153.8	163.5	164.9	163.4
1.1.1.2 Fruits & Vegetables	3.475	147.3	136.1	195.6	183.6	158.2
1.1.1.3 Milk	4.440	143.1	142.9	148.5	148.7	149.3
1.1.1.4 Eggs,Meat & Fish	2.402	138.0	143.8	149.2	152.2	153.7
1.1.1.5 Condiments & Spices	0.529	129.6	127.7	154.1	156.9	150.0
1.1.1.6 Other Food Articles	0.948	144.4	147.7	143.5	143.5	142.7
1.1.2 NON-FOOD ARTICLES	4.119	123.1	123.2	134.0	132.1	131.6
1.1.2.1 Fibres	0.839	127.0	125.0	123.7	124.3	124.4
1.1.2.2 Oil Seeds	1.115	140.5	146.9	152.9	157.1	153.7
1.1.2.3 Other non-food Articles	1.960	107.3	102.0	105.4	105.8	105.1
1.1.2.4 Floriculture	0.204	164.1	189.3	348.3	280.7	294.6
1.1.3 MINERALS	0.833	136.5	144.0	147.6	142.6	147.6
1.1.3.1 Metallic Minerals	0.648	123.0	133.0	137.5	133.0	137.5
1.1.3.2 Other Minerals	0.185	183.5	182.4	182.6	176.4	182.6
1.1.4 CRUDE PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS	2.410	92.4	88.2	88.2	88.3	87.0
1.2 FUEL & POWER	13.152	104.1	100.5	103.2	102.7	103.9
1.2.1 COAL	2.138	123.3	123.6	126.5	126.5	126.5
1.2.1.1 Coking Coal	0.647	132.9	133.9	141.9	141.9	141.9
1.2.1.2 Non-Coking Coal	1.401	119.0	119.0	119.0	119.0	119.0
1.2.1.3 Lignite	0.090	120.3	120.0	131.1	131.1	131.1
1.2.2 MINERAL OILS	7.950	96.7	91.4	91.3	93.5	92.4
1.2.3 ELECTRICITY	3.064	109.6	108.2	117.9	110.0	117.9
1.3 MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS	64.231	117.9	118.2	118.0	118.5	118.7
1.3.1 MANUFACTURE OF FOOD PRODUCTS	9.122	128.6	128.7	137.0	138.2	136.9
1.3.1.1 Processing and Preserving of meat	0.134	136.7	134.3	135.8	135.9	136.7
1.3.1.2 Processing and Preserving of fish, Crustaceans, Molluscs and products thereof	0.204	132.1	132.3	136.6	134.3	135.7
1.3.1.3 Processing and Preserving of fruit and Vegetables	0.138	114.3	113.1	115.0	114.9	114.9
1.3.1.4 Vegetable and Animal oils and Fats	2.643	117.6	115.5	126.4	131.1	129.1
1.3.1.5 Dairy products	1.165	136.2	134.4	149.5	151.2	151.2
1.3.1.6 Grain mill products	2.010	141.6	144.2	147.5	146.6	146.3
1.3.1.7 Starches and Starch products	0.110	116.6	129.9	133.7	134.2	133.4
1.3.1.8 Bakery products	0.215	129.3	130.7	134.6	135.7	136.3
1.3.1.9 Sugar, Molasses & honey	1.163	111.2	111.7	119.3	119.8	119.1
1.3.1.10 Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar confectionery	0.175	126.7	127.0	128.0	126.1	125.9
1.3.1.11 Macaroni, Noodles, Couscous and Similar farinaceous products	0.026	134.5	142.6	123.4	131.7	130.5
1.3.1.12 Tea & Coffee products	0.371	137.7	128.3	138.5	130.1	126.1
1.3.1.13 Processed condiments & salt	0.163	122.2	125.1	135.7	135.9	137.5
1.3.1.14 Processed ready to eat food	0.024	127.0	126.9	129.1	129.6	129.9
1.3.1.15 Health supplements	0.225	143.6	154.6	159.7	164.5	155.9
1.3.1.16 Prepared animal feeds	0.356	157.5	160.5	175.7	174.6	170.0
1.3.2 MANUFACTURE OF BEVERAGES	0.909	120.7	121.7	123.7	124.0	124.1
1.3.2.1 Wines & spirits	0.408	113.8	114.0	118.6	118.5	119.2
1.3.2.2 Malt liquors and Malt	0.225	120.5	122.1	125.8	125.7	126.6
1.3.2.3 Soft drinks; Production of mineral waters and Other bottled waters	0.275	131.2	132.7	129.5	131.0	129.1
1.3.3 MANUFACTURE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS	0.514	150.4	152.5	151.0	151.0	154.2
1.3.3.1 Tobacco products	0.514	150.4	152.5	151.0	151.0	154.2

No. 21: Wholesale Price Index (Contd.)

(Base: 2011-12 = 100)

Commodities	Weight	2018-19	2019		2020	
			Feb.	Dec.	Jan. (P)	Feb. (P)
1.3.4 MANUFACTURE OF TEXTILES	4.881	117.9	119.2	116.0	116.4	116.7
1.3.4.1 Preparation and Spinning of textile fibres	2.582	110.6	111.2	105.1	105.6	105.7
1.3.4.2 Weaving & Finishing of textiles	1.509	127.3	129.7	129.3	129.5	130.5
1.3.4.3 Knitted and Crocheted fabrics	0.193	112.9	112.3	114.8	114.7	113.9
1.3.4.4 Made-up textile articles, Except apparel	0.299	130.3	134.2	135.5	135.1	133.6
1.3.4.5 Cordage, Rope, Twine and Netting	0.098	138.7	137.7	145.8	147.2	146.0
1.3.4.6 Other textiles	0.201	118.3	118.0	116.0	116.0	116.7
1.3.5 MANUFACTURE OF WEARING APPAREL	0.814	138.8	137.5	139.2	138.0	137.8
1.3.5.1 Manufacture of Wearing Apparel (woven), Except fur Apparel	0.593	139.4	138.3	140.2	138.6	138.1
1.3.5.2 Knitted and Crocheted apparel	0.221	137.0	135.5	136.7	136.4	136.9
1.3.6 MANUFACTURE OF LEATHER AND RELATED PRODUCTS	0.535	121.8	119.5	118.4	118.3	117.8
1.3.6.1 Tanning and Dressing of leather; Dressing and Dyeing of fur	0.142	111.0	103.3	104.6	103.0	102.8
1.3.6.2 Luggage, HandbAgs, Saddlery and Harness	0.075	134.7	133.0	135.9	137.1	137.6
1.3.6.3 Footwear	0.318	123.5	123.5	120.4	120.7	119.9
1.3.7 MANUFACTURE OF WOOD AND PRODUCTS OF WOOD AND CORK	0.772	133.5	136.2	133.0	133.1	132.7
1.3.7.1 Saw milling and Planing of wood	0.124	124.5	127.6	120.5	119.8	120.1
1.3.7.2 Veneer sheets; Manufacture of plywood, Laminboard, Particle board and Other panels and Boards	0.493	136.3	139.6	135.7	136.2	135.4
1.3.7.3 Builder's carpentry and Joinery	0.036	158.7	157.0	177.8	178.0	178.0
1.3.7.4 Wooden containers	0.119	124.1	124.9	121.2	120.7	121.5
1.3.8 MANUFACTURE OF PAPER AND PAPER PRODUCTS	1.113	123.3	124.1	118.9	119.1	120.0
1.3.8.1 Pulp, Paper and Paperboard	0.493	129.3	131.0	122.7	122.6	123.4
1.3.8.2 Corrugated paper and Paperboard and Containers of paper and Paperboard	0.314	116.5	116.4	112.1	112.7	113.8
1.3.8.3 Other articles of paper and Paperboard	0.306	120.6	121.1	120.0	119.9	120.8
1.3.9 PRINTING AND REPRODUCTION OF RECORDED MEDIA	0.676	146.6	146.0	151.2	151.5	151.5
1.3.9.1 Printing	0.676	146.6	146.0	151.2	151.5	151.5
1.3.10 MANUFACTURE OF CHEMICALS AND CHEMICAL PRODUCTS	6.465	119.1	119.7	116.2	116.3	116.0
1.3.10.1 Basic chemicals	1.433	125.0	125.8	116.8	116.8	117.2
1.3.10.2 Fertilizers and Nitrogen compounds	1.485	121.1	123.0	123.9	123.2	122.9
1.3.10.3 Plastic and Synthetic rubber in primary form	1.001	117.6	114.7	109.0	110.8	109.2
1.3.10.4 Pesticides and Other agrochemical products	0.454	120.2	123.5	121.8	121.5	121.8
1.3.10.5 Paints, Varnishes and Similar coatings, Printing ink and Mastics	0.491	112.7	114.5	113.9	114.3	113.2
1.3.10.6 Soap and Detergents, Cleaning and Polishing preparations, Perfumes and Toilet preparations	0.612	116.8	119.1	118.7	119.1	118.8
1.3.10.7 Other chemical products	0.692	116.6	116.0	113.6	113.1	113.3
1.3.10.8 Man-made fibres	0.296	104.0	103.0	96.1	95.6	95.5
1.3.11 MANUFACTURE OF PHARMACEUTICALS, MEDICINAL CHEMICAL AND BOTANICAL PRODUCTS	1.993	123.5	126.0	127.8	127.8	130.3
1.3.11.1 Pharmaceuticals, Medicinal chemical and Botanical products	1.993	123.5	126.0	127.8	127.8	130.3
1.3.12 MANUFACTURE OF RUBBER AND PLASTICS PRODUCTS	2.299	109.6	109.6	108.2	107.9	107.7
1.3.12.1 Rubber Tyres and Tubes; Retreading and Rebuilding of Rubber Tyres	0.609	98.9	99.6	98.3	98.7	98.7
1.3.12.2 Other Rubber Products	0.272	91.7	91.8	93.9	93.8	94.0
1.3.12.3 Plastics products	1.418	117.6	117.3	115.2	114.6	114.3
1.3.13 MANUFACTURE OF OTHER NON-METALLIC MINERAL PRODUCTS	3.202	115.9	117.5	115.5	115.5	116.3
1.3.13.1 Glass and Glass products	0.295	121.4	125.9	125.1	126.0	125.4
1.3.13.2 Refractory products	0.223	111.1	111.1	106.9	107.6	108.7
1.3.13.3 Clay Building Materials	0.121	98.0	98.7	103.7	102.1	103.3
1.3.13.4 Other Porcelain and Ceramic Products	0.222	112.7	114.4	113.3	114.8	114.7
1.3.13.5 Cement, Lime and Plaster	1.645	114.3	117.6	118.0	117.8	119.4

No. 21: Wholesale Price Index (Contd.)

(Base: 2011-12 = 100)

Commodities	Weight	2018-19	2019		2020	
			Feb.	Dec.	Jan. (P)	Feb. (P)
1.3.13.6 Articles of Concrete, Cement and Plaster	0.292	121.5	121.9	122.2	122.7	123.0
1.3.13.7 Cutting, Shaping and Finishing of Stone	0.234	118.8	118.5	119.1	118.5	117.9
1.3.13.8 Other Non-Metallic Mineral Products	0.169	130.4	119.3	80.6	78.1	78.1
1.3.14 MANUFACTURE OF BASIC METALS	9.646	112.2	111.0	103.6	105.8	107.0
1.3.14.1 Inputs into steel making	1.411	113.0	108.9	96.6	102.1	104.3
1.3.14.2 Metallic Iron	0.653	117.8	113.6	102.8	107.8	109.7
1.3.14.3 Mild Steel - Semi Finished Steel	1.274	99.5	98.2	93.7	96.0	96.1
1.3.14.4 Mild Steel -Long Products	1.081	110.2	109.9	102.4	104.3	105.6
1.3.14.5 Mild Steel - Flat products	1.144	119.6	115.0	103.4	106.5	109.5
1.3.14.6 Alloy steel other than Stainless Steel- Shapes	0.067	111.7	111.6	99.5	100.0	102.0
1.3.14.7 Stainless Steel - Semi Finished	0.924	112.7	112.4	98.5	98.6	104.0
1.3.14.8 Pipes & tubes	0.205	126.6	128.6	126.5	126.4	127.2
1.3.14.9 Non-ferrous metals incl. precious metals	1.693	112.2	110.2	105.8	107.0	105.7
1.3.14.10 Castings	0.925	109.8	113.3	113.4	113.4	112.4
1.3.14.11 Forgings of steel	0.271	126.8	141.0	149.7	147.1	146.6
1.3.15 MANUFACTURE OF FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS, EXCEPT MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT	3.155	115.1	116.1	115.2	115.4	114.6
1.3.15.1 Structural Metal Products	1.031	112.8	114.2	112.8	113.6	112.9
1.3.15.2 Tanks, Reservoirs and Containers of Metal	0.660	127.3	123.1	124.9	124.2	123.0
1.3.15.3 Steam generators, Except Central Heating Hot Water Boilers	0.145	105.9	104.8	106.3	106.3	107.7
1.3.15.4 Forging, Pressing, Stamping and Roll-Forming of Metal; Powder Metallurgy	0.383	96.3	103.3	99.8	99.3	98.0
1.3.15.5 Cutlery, Hand Tools and General Hardware	0.208	99.7	99.9	100.5	100.6	100.9
1.3.15.6 Other Fabricated Metal Products	0.728	123.1	125.8	123.7	124.4	123.5
1.3.16 MANUFACTURE OF COMPUTER, ELECTRONIC AND OPTICAL PRODUCTS	2.009	111.8	111.3	109.9	109.7	109.5
1.3.16.1 Electronic Components	0.402	100.9	98.5	97.8	97.7	98.9
1.3.16.2 Computers and Peripheral Equipment	0.336	132.5	135.0	135.0	135.0	135.0
1.3.16.3 Communication Equipment	0.310	116.7	116.6	118.9	116.8	115.0
1.3.16.4 Consumer Electronics	0.641	103.8	102.4	96.7	96.9	96.5
1.3.16.5 Measuring, Testing, Navigating and Control equipment	0.181	109.1	108.9	111.1	111.9	110.6
1.3.16.6 Watches and Clocks	0.076	137.9	136.6	139.7	140.5	140.9
1.3.16.7 Irradiation, Electromedical and Electrotherapeutic equipment	0.055	103.2	106.6	101.4	101.4	104.7
1.3.16.8 Optical instruments and Photographic equipment	0.008	108.7	107.5	110.9	112.0	112.0
1.3.17 MANUFACTURE OF ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT	2.930	111.7	112.0	110.8	110.8	110.7
1.3.17.1 Electric motors, Generators, Transformers and Electricity distribution and Control apparatus	1.298	107.7	108.6	108.2	108.4	108.5
1.3.17.2 Batteries and Accumulators	0.236	117.7	116.5	116.0	116.7	115.9
1.3.17.3 Fibre optic cables for data transmission or live transmission of images	0.133	126.1	124.6	109.2	108.0	107.6
1.3.17.4 Other electronic and Electric wires and Cables	0.428	111.2	111.3	109.8	110.2	109.4
1.3.17.5 Wiring devices, Electric lighting & display equipment	0.263	108.6	109.3	110.3	111.3	111.7
1.3.17.6 Domestic appliances	0.366	121.6	120.7	120.4	118.3	118.2
1.3.17.7 Other electrical equipment	0.206	108.6	110.2	108.5	108.1	108.9
1.3.18 MANUFACTURE OF MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT	4.789	111.3	111.9	113.0	113.0	113.4
1.3.18.1 Engines and Turbines, Except aircraft, Vehicle and Two wheeler engines	0.638	103.0	103.3	105.5	105.2	105.3
1.3.18.2 Fluid power equipment	0.162	118.2	119.1	120.1	120.1	119.6
1.3.18.3 Other pumps, Compressors, Taps and Valves	0.552	108.9	109.9	111.2	111.5	111.7
1.3.18.4 Bearings, Gears, Gearing and Driving elements	0.340	111.2	110.5	109.7	108.0	111.0
1.3.18.5 Ovens, Furnaces and Furnace burners	0.008	78.2	78.0	80.6	80.9	81.0
1.3.18.6 Lifting and Handling equipment	0.285	110.4	111.6	111.9	111.7	112.0

No. 21: Wholesale Price Index (Concl.)

(Base: 2011-12 = 100)

Commodities	Weight	2018-19	2019		2020	
			Feb.	Dec.	Jan. (P)	Feb. (P)
1.3.18.7 Office machinery and Equipment	0.006	130.2	130.2	130.2	130.2	130.2
1.3.18.8 Other general-purpose machinery	0.437	129.6	128.9	129.0	128.4	128.4
1.3.18.9 Agricultural and Forestry machinery	0.833	116.9	118.5	121.1	121.1	121.4
1.3.18.10 Metal-forming machinery and Machine tools	0.224	101.8	104.6	109.0	108.2	109.5
1.3.18.11 Machinery for mining, Quarrying and Construction	0.371	75.7	77.0	74.8	75.2	75.0
1.3.18.12 Machinery for food, Beverage and Tobacco processing	0.228	124.7	123.4	125.6	126.3	128.6
1.3.18.13 Machinery for textile, Apparel and Leather production	0.192	119.9	118.1	117.2	119.3	117.7
1.3.18.14 Other special-purpose machinery	0.468	123.8	125.2	126.2	126.7	126.9
1.3.18.15 Renewable electricity generating equipment	0.046	67.3	67.0	65.4	65.4	65.4
1.3.19 MANUFACTURE OF MOTOR VEHICLES, TRAILERS AND SEMI-TRAILERS	4.969	112.8	113.2	115.3	115.1	114.8
1.3.19.1 Motor vehicles	2.600	113.3	113.6	115.0	115.0	114.8
1.3.19.2 Parts and Accessories for motor vehicles	2.368	112.2	112.8	115.6	115.3	114.8
1.3.20 MANUFACTURE OF OTHER TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	1.648	111.7	112.9	118.4	118.7	120.5
1.3.20.1 Building of ships and Floating structures	0.117	158.8	158.8	158.8	158.8	158.8
1.3.20.2 Railway locomotives and Rolling stock	0.110	104.7	105.2	106.6	106.6	106.0
1.3.20.3 Motor cycles	1.302	106.6	107.9	114.7	115.2	117.6
1.3.20.4 Bicycles and Invalid carriages	0.117	127.8	129.7	130.5	128.2	128.3
1.3.20.5 Other transport equipment	0.002	123.5	124.1	127.0	127.4	127.5
1.3.21 MANUFACTURE OF FURNITURE	0.727	127.3	128.7	130.3	129.7	128.2
1.3.21.1 Furniture	0.727	127.3	128.7	130.3	129.7	128.2
1.3.22 OTHER MANUFACTURING	1.064	107.0	106.4	114.4	113.1	117.0
1.3.22.1 Jewellery and Related articles	0.996	103.9	103.2	111.6	110.3	114.4
1.3.22.2 Musical instruments	0.001	174.1	177.0	172.7	177.2	175.1
1.3.22.3 Sports goods	0.012	127.4	126.2	131.4	131.7	131.3
1.3.22.4 Games and Toys	0.005	132.2	132.6	138.2	134.6	135.5
1.3.22.5 Medical and Dental instruments and Supplies	0.049	159.2	160.9	162.5	162.9	163.2
2 FOOD INDEX	24.378	138.1	138.1	153.0	152.3	148.2

Source: Office of the Economic Adviser, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.

No. 22: Index of Industrial Production (Base:2011-12=100)

Industry	Weight	2017-18	2018-19	April-January		January	
				2019	2020	2019	2020
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
General Index	100.00	125.3	130.1	129.0	129.6	134.4	137.1
1 Sectoral Classification							
1.1 Mining	14.37	104.9	107.9	104.9	106.0	119.1	124.3
1.2 Manufacturing	77.63	126.6	131.5	130.4	130.8	135.5	137.6
1.3 Electricity	7.99	149.2	156.9	158.5	160.0	150.9	155.6
2 Use-Based Classification							
2.1 Primary Goods	34.05	121.8	126.1	125.2	125.8	131.0	133.4
2.2 Capital Goods	8.22	105.6	108.4	107.5	95.1	107.1	102.5
2.3 Intermediate Goods	17.22	125.1	126.2	124.2	138.0	127.0	147.1
2.4 Infrastructure/ Construction Goods	12.34	132.0	141.7	140.4	136.8	147.2	143.9
2.5 Consumer Durables	12.84	123.6	130.4	130.8	122.7	128.7	123.6
2.6 Consumer Non-Durables	15.33	139.9	145.5	143.5	146.8	159.2	158.7

Source : National Statistical Office, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India.

Government Accounts and Treasury Bills**No. 23: Union Government Accounts at a Glance**

(Amount in ₹ Crore)

Item	Financial Year	April - February			
	2019-20 (Revised Estimates)	2019-20 (Actuals)	2018-19 (Actuals)	Percentage to Revised Estimates	
				2019-20	2018-19
1	2	3	4	5	
1 Revenue Receipts	1850101	1377777	1265678	74.5	73.2
1.1 Tax Revenue (Net)	1504587	1114636	1093923	74.1	73.7
1.2 Non-Tax Revenue	345514	263141	171755	76.2	70.0
2 Non-Debt Capital Receipt	81605	51092	71662	62.6	76.9
2.1 Recovery of Loans	16605	15849	15042	95.4	114.3
2.2 Other Receipts	65000	35243	56620	54.2	70.8
3 Total Receipts (excluding borrowings) (1+2)	1931706	1428869	1337340	74.0	73.4
4 Revenue Expenditure	2349645	2160701	1915303	92.0	89.5
4.1 Interest Payments	625105	512984	501160	82.1	85.3
5 Capital Expenditure	348907	304653	273536	87.3	86.4
6 Total Expenditure (4+5)	2698552	2465354	2188839	91.4	89.1
7 Revenue Deficit (4-1)	499544	782924	649625	156.7	158.1
8 Fiscal Deficit (6-3)	766846	1036485	851499	135.2	134.2
9 Gross Primary Deficit (8-4.1)	141741	523501	350339	369.3	748.1

Source: Controller General of Accounts, Ministry of Finance, Government of India.

No. 24: Treasury Bills – Ownership Pattern

(₹ Crore)

Item	2018-19	2019	2020						
		Mar. 1	Jan. 24	Jan. 31	Feb. 7	Feb. 14	Feb. 21	Feb. 28	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1 91-day									
1.1 Banks	18521	24508	6106	7116	6634	7633	9067	11205	
1.2 Primary Dealers	17878	11010	12681	12593	11146	9997	7688	10259	
1.3 State Governments	26999	39293	46206	40201	32977	32492	24532	18532	
1.4 Others	27747	40860	96286	90368	87430	82427	77157	66467	
2 182-day									
2.1 Banks	31953	36418	73785	73542	74602	77063	74068	71102	
2.2 Primary Dealers	38738	41243	26534	27297	29134	30773	34725	36667	
2.3 State Governments	28036	29573	7151	7155	7155	18640	18600	18600	
2.4 Others	18567	15591	19176	19654	17737	14604	14636	15656	
3 364-day									
3.1 Banks	48811	49736	55090	55279	54682	54958	54458	52590	
3.2 Primary Dealers	74170	71165	53981	55714	55823	57385	58577	61612	
3.3 State Governments	18892	18937	22369	22369	11869	11869	11870	11870	
3.4 Others	62393	64718	66858	65783	66235	63982	63606	62394	
4 14-day Intermediate									
4.1 Banks									
4.2 Primary Dealers									
4.3 State Governments	165605	161494	138311	141449	105994	89685	160993	179421	
4.4 Others	252	417	464	382	205	320	209	281	
Total Treasury Bills (Excluding 14 day Intermediate T Bills) #	412704	443052	486223	477071	455424	461822	448983	436955	

14D intermediate T-Bills are non-marketable unlike 91D, 182D and 364D T-Bills. These bills are 'intermediate' by nature as these are liquidated to replenish shortfall in the daily minimum cash balances of State Governments

No. 25: Auctions of Treasury Bills

(Amount in ₹ Crore)

Date of Auction	Notified Amount	Bids Received				Bids Accepted			Total Issue (6+7)	Cut-off Price	Implicit Yield at Cut-off Price (per cent)
		Number	Total Face Value		Number	Total Face Value					
			Competitive	Non-Competitive		Competitive	Non-Competitive				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
91-day Treasury Bills											
2019-20											
Jan. 29	4000	61	11114	7	27	3993	7	4000	98.74	5.1266	
Feb. 5	4000	69	17187	1408	26	3992	1408	5400	98.74	5.1241	
Feb. 12	4000	81	27124	712	10	3988	712	4700	98.75	5.0949	
Feb. 18	4000	93	22466	2034	20	3998	2034	6031	98.76	5.0566	
Feb. 26	4000	68	9041	2258	51	3982	2258	6240	98.75	5.0793	
182-day Treasury Bills											
2019-20											
Jan. 29	6000	82	16002	7	61	5993	7	6000	97.45	5.2396	
Feb. 5	6000	65	21886	5	23	5995	5	6000	97.45	5.2398	
Feb. 12	6000	71	21652	11503	23	5997	11503	17500	97.47	5.1997	
Feb. 18	6000	63	16816	0	28	6000	0	6000	97.49	5.1695	
Feb. 26	5000	66	9854	25	48	4975	25	5000	97.48	5.1845	
364-day Treasury Bills											
2019-20											
Jan. 29	3000	67	9308	0	35	3000	0	3000	94.99	5.2890	
Feb. 5	3000	61	9648	12	35	2988	12	3000	94.96	5.3221	
Feb. 12	3000	84	16401	10	5	2990	10	3000	95.03	5.2397	
Feb. 18	3000	68	10519	0	20	3000	0	3000	95.07	5.1999	
Feb. 26	3000	98	15958	0	11	3000	0	3000	95.10	5.1649	

Financial Markets

No. 26: Daily Call Money Rates

(Per cent per annum)

As on		Range of Rates	Weighted Average Rates
		Borrowings/ Lendings	Borrowings/ Lendings
		1	2
February	1, 2020	4.25-5.25	4.90
February	3, 2020	3.70-5.25	4.93
February	4, 2020	3.70-5.25	4.98
February	5, 2020	3.70-5.40	4.93
February	6, 2020	3.70-5.25	4.99
February	7, 2020	3.60-5.25	5.03
February	10, 2020	3.70-5.30	5.02
February	11, 2020	3.70-5.25	5.00
February	12, 2020	3.70-5.25	4.92
February	13, 2020	3.70-5.25	4.95
February	14, 2020	3.50-5.25	5.01
February	15, 2020	4.25-5.05	4.81
February	17, 2020	3.70-5.25	4.93
February	18, 2020	3.70-5.25	4.95
February	20, 2020	3.70-5.25	5.05
February	24, 2020	3.70-5.25	5.03
February	25, 2020	3.70-5.25	4.94
February	26, 2020	3.70-5.25	4.93
February	27, 2020	3.70-5.25	4.90
February	28, 2020	3.70-5.25	4.98
February	29, 2020	4.05-5.25	5.06
March	2, 2020	3.60-5.25	4.95
March	3, 2020	3.60-5.25	4.91
March	4, 2020	3.60-5.25	4.95
March	5, 2020	3.70-5.25	4.93
March	6, 2020	3.70-5.20	4.94
March	7, 2020	4.05-5.10	4.83
March	9, 2020	3.70-5.20	4.96
March	11, 2020	3.70-5.15	4.95
March	12, 2020	3.70-5.15	4.93
March	13, 2020	3.50-5.20	4.96

Note: Includes Notice Money.

No. 27: Certificates of Deposit

Item	2019		2020		
	Feb. 15	Jan. 17	Jan. 31	Feb. 14	Feb. 28
	1	2	3	4	5
1 Amount Outstanding (₹ Crore)	200250.80	181344.00	181309.00	186042.00	185932.00
1.1 Issued during the fortnight (₹ Crore)	33384.18	7692.49	16507.91	18874.41	16537.00
2 Rate of Interest (per cent)	6.44-8.90	5.10-6.86	5.20-7.50	5.22-7.16	5.22-6.76

No. 28: Commercial Paper

Item	2019		2020		
	Feb. 28	Jan. 15	Jan. 31	Feb. 15	Feb. 29
	1	2	3	4	5
1 Amount Outstanding (₹ Crore)	520811.05	434895.30	421988.85	435803.25	400200.25
1.1 Reported during the fortnight (₹ Crore)	90081.20	37801.80	72673.75	84356.40	56287.50
2 Rate of Interest (per cent)	6.36-11.74	4.75-14.29	5.12-13.05	5.11-12.53	5.11-13.45

No. 29: Average Daily Turnover in Select Financial Markets

(₹ Crore)

Item	2018-19	2019		2020				
		Mar. 1	Jan. 24	Jan. 31	Feb. 7	Feb. 14	Feb. 21	Feb. 28
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1 Call Money	31280	41140	16270	14691	22212	19869	28262	27447
2 Notice Money	4930	9366	805	8821	870	10944	1051	8014
3 Term Money	740	969	511	964	895	798	742	973
4 CBLO/TRIPARTY REPO	213010	329012	325737	362137	283432	308513	259355	360008
5 Market Repo	200970	228157	201848	249932	227651	299777	221702	297486
6 Repo in Corporate Bond		1940	1554	3235	4886	1818	1210	80
7 Forex (US \$ million)	67793	81741	56489	72057	69523	66967	59151	83533
8 Govt. of India Dated Securities	65800	56365	61839	60694	119431	109426	133831	117379
9 State Govt. Securities	4320	4402	4644	4535	6911	5512	6413	6094
10 Treasury Bills								
10.1 91-Day	3380	2277	2059	2049	2077	3071	6176	2315
10.2 182-Day	1450	771	1267	1705	2128	1564	1608	863
10.3 364-Day	1620	768	1018	597	1323	1182	1815	840
10.4 Cash Management Bills	1400	5603	3206	2179	17260	3010	2687	4596
11 Total Govt. Securities (8+9+10)	77970	70186	74033	71760	149132	123765	152530	132087
11.1 RBI	-	2624	2594	37	128	19	267	211

Note : Collateralised Borrowing and Lending Obligation (CBLO) segment of the money market has been discontinued and replaced with Triparty Repo with effect from November 05, 2018.

No. 30: New Capital Issues By Non-Government Public Limited Companies

(Amount in ₹ Crore)

Security & Type of Issue	2018-19		2018-19 (Apr.-Feb.)		2019-20 (Apr.-Feb.) *		Feb. 2019		Feb. 2020 *	
	No. of Issues	Amount	No. of Issues	Amount	No. of Issues	Amount	No. of Issues	Amount	No. of Issues	Amount
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1 Equity Shares	129	16754	120	16603	65	64536	6	53	2	14
1A Premium	124	16085	115	15961	63	42888	4	33	2	10
1.1 Public	119	14605	111	14479	53	9851	5	27	2	14
1.1.1 Premium	115	14123	107	14021	51	9425	3	16	2	10
1.2 Rights	10	2149	9	2124	12	54685	1	26	–	–
1.2.1 Premium	9	1962	8	1940	12	33463	1	18	–	–
2 Preference Shares	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2.1 Public	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2.2 Rights	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
3 Bonds & Debentures	25	36680	22	33844	32	14659	2	1286	2	498
3.1 Convertible	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
3.1.1 Public	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
3.1.2 Rights	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
3.2 Non-Convertible	25	36680	22	33844	32	14659	2	1286	2	498
3.2.1 Public	25	36680	22	33844	32	14659	2	1286	2	498
3.2.2 Rights	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
4 Total(1+2+3)	154	53433	142	50447	97	79195	8	1340	4	512
4.1 Public	144	51284	133	48323	85	24510	7	1313	4	512
4.2 Rights	10	2149	9	2124	12	54685	1	26	–	–

Note : Since April 2018, monthly data is compiled on the basis of closing date of issues as against the earlier practice of compilation on the basis of opening date.

Source : Securities and Exchange Board of India.

* : Data is Provisional

External Sector

No. 31: Foreign Trade

Item	Unit	2018-19	2019				2020	
			Feb.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1 Exports	₹ Crore	2307726	191345	186934	185483	194919	185219	197646
	US \$ Million	330078	26866	26314	25959	27379	25972	27647
1.1 Oil	₹ Crore	325929	21960	25061	28669	27711	23555	24265
	US \$ Million	46554	3083	3528	4012	3892	3303	3394
1.2 Non-oil	₹ Crore	1981797	169385	161873	156814	167208	161664	173382
	US \$ Million	283525	23783	22786	21947	23487	22669	24253
2 Imports	₹ Crore	3594675	260603	269507	275336	282124	293440	268064
	US \$ Million	514078	36590	37938	38535	39628	41148	37497
2.1 Oil	₹ Crore	986275	67048	68763	79090	76110	92503	76894
	US \$ Million	140921	9414	9680	11069	10691	12971	10756
2.2 Non-oil	₹ Crore	2608400	193555	200744	196246	206014	200938	191170
	US \$ Million	373158	27176	28258	27466	28938	28177	26741
3 Trade Balance	₹ Crore	-1286948	-69258	-82573	-89854	-87205	-108221	-70418
	US \$ Million	-184000	-9724	-11624	-12575	-12249	-15175	-9850
3.1 Oil	₹ Crore	-660346	-45088	-43702	-50421	-48399	-68948	-52629
	US \$ Million	-94367	-6331	-6152	-7057	-6798	-9668	-7362
3.2 Non-oil	₹ Crore	-626602	-24170	-38870	-39433	-38806	-39274	-17788
	US \$ Million	-89633	-3394	-5472	-5519	-5451	-5507	-2488

Source: DGCI&S and Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

No. 32: Foreign Exchange Reserves

Item	Unit	2019	2020					
		Mar. 15	Feb. 7	Feb. 14	Feb. 21	Feb. 28	Mar. 6	Mar. 13
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1 Total Reserves	₹ Crore	2812180	3378130	3398212	3410238	3475030	3592435	3565980
	US \$ Million	405638	473001	476092	476122	481540	487237	481892
1.1 Foreign Currency Assets	₹ Crore	2614690	3136686	3154503	3161973	3217272	3326272	3310406
	US \$ Million	377774	439186	441949	441458	445823	451135	447358
1.2 Gold	₹ Crore	166650	205541	207871	212456	221398	228567	218050
	US \$ Million	23408	28779	29123	29662	30680	31000	29467
1.3 SDRs	SDRs Million	1049	1046	1045	1045	1045	1045	1045
	₹ Crore	10110	10259	10207	10216	10331	10666	10722
1.4 Reserve Tranche Position in IMF	US \$ Million	1461	1436	1430	1426	1432	1447	1449
	₹ Crore	20730	25644	25631	25593	26028	26931	26801
	US \$ Million	2995	3599	3590	3575	3606	3656	3618

* Difference, if any, is due to rounding off.

No. 33: NRI Deposits

(US\$ Million)

Scheme	Outstanding				Flows	
	2018-19	2019	2020		2018-19	2019-20
		Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Apr.-Feb.	Apr.-Feb.
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1 NRI Deposits	130423	125599	133565	132502	8269	6697
1.1 FCNR(B)	23170	21623	24408	24233	-402	1063
1.2 NR(E)RA	92017	89183	92838	92049	6795	3972
1.3 NRO	15236	14792	16319	16220	1876	1661

No. 34: Foreign Investment Inflows

(US\$ Million)

Item	2018-19	2018-19	2019-20	2019	2020	
		Apr.-Feb.	Apr.-Feb.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1.1 Net Foreign Direct Investment (1.1.1-1.1.2)	30712	29923	40625	1949	5668	2873
1.1.1 Direct Investment to India (1.1.1.1-1.1.2)	43302	40063	52090	2503	6742	4533
1.1.1.1 Gross Inflows/Gross Investments	62001	56871	69908	4394	8494	6285
1.1.1.1.1 Equity	45055	41393	46864	2926	5631	3422
1.1.1.1.1.1 Government (SIA/FIPB)	2429	2152	3077	22	24	26
1.1.1.1.1.2 RBI	36315	33787	36361	2490	4751	3149
1.1.1.1.1.3 Acquisition of shares	5622	4826	6262	353	795	186
1.1.1.1.1.4 Equity capital of unincorporated bodies	689	628	1165	61	61	61
1.1.1.1.2 Reinvested earnings	13672	12455	12836	1217	1217	1217
1.1.1.1.3 Other capital	3274	3023	10209	251	1646	1646
1.1.1.2 Repatriation/Disinvestment	18699	16809	17818	1890	1752	1752
1.1.1.2.1 Equity	18452	16573	17645	1879	1748	1748
1.1.1.2.2 Other capital	247	235	173	12	4	4
1.1.2 Foreign Direct Investment by India (1.1.2.1+1.1.2.2+1.1.2.3-1.1.2.4)	12590	10140	11465	554	1074	1660
1.1.2.1 Equity capital	7201	6235	5916	458	810	501
1.1.2.2 Reinvested Earnings	3032	2780	2869	253	253	253
1.1.2.3 Other Capital	5202	3572	4891	242	223	1118
1.1.2.4 Repatriation/Disinvestment	2845	2447	2210	398	212	212
1.2 Net Portfolio Investment (1.2.1+1.2.2+1.2.3-1.2.4)	-618	-9241	15954	1175	-227	1033
1.2.1 GDRs/ADRs	1820	1820	-	-	-	-
1.2.2 FIIs	-2225	-11525	16300	1852	-127	1133
1.2.3 Offshore funds and others	-	-	-	-	-	-
1.2.4 Portfolio investment by India	213	-464	346	678	100	100
1 Foreign Investment Inflows	30094	20682	56579	3124	5441	3906

No. 35: Outward Remittances under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) for Resident Individuals

(US\$ Million)

Item	2018-19	2019		2020	
		Feb.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
	1	2	3	4	5
1 Outward Remittances under the LRS	13787.58	1046.51	1563.72	1804.50	1686.70
1.1 Deposit	455.94	33.23	42.38	55.94	50.17
1.2 Purchase of immovable property	84.53	4.56	4.85	6.67	7.59
1.3 Investment in equity/debt	422.90	24.55	27.57	26.20	29.68
1.4 Gift	1370.24	103.65	150.90	158.44	196.77
1.5 Donations	8.67	0.58	0.89	1.10	1.16
1.6 Travel	4803.81	366.36	620.32	712.56	539.74
1.7 Maintenance of close relatives	2800.88	199.84	276.74	310.83	342.58
1.8 Medical Treatment	28.59	1.63	2.68	2.59	4.02
1.9 Studies Abroad	3569.87	296.71	420.45	510.26	496.87
1.10 Others	242.15	15.40	16.93	19.90	18.10

No. 36: Indices of Real Effective Exchange Rate (REER) and Nominal Effective Exchange Rate (NEER) of the Indian Rupee

Item	2017-18	2018-19	2019	2020	
			March	February	March
	1	2	3	4	5
36-Currency Export and Trade Based Weights (Base: 2004-05=100)					
1 Trade-Based Weights					
1.1 NEER	76.94	72.64	73.64	72.87	71.22
1.2 REER	119.71	114.01	115.25	119.20	116.51
2 Export-Based Weights					
2.1 NEER	78.89	74.18	75.22	73.91	72.09
2.2 REER	121.94	116.32	117.63	122.13	119.12
6-Currency Trade Based Weights					
1 Base: 2004-05 (April-March) =100					
1.1 NEER	67.91	63.07	63.88	63.37	60.81
1.2 REER	129.19	121.70	123.30	126.38	121.39
2 Base: 2017-18 (April-March) =100					
2.1 NEER	100.00	92.88	94.06	93.32	89.55
2.2 REER	100.00	94.20	95.44	97.83	93.97

No. 37: External Commercial Borrowings (ECBs) – Registrations

(Amount in US\$ Million)

Item	2018-19	2019	2020	
		Feb.	Jan.	Feb.
	1	2	3	4
1 Automatic Route				
1.1 Number	999	88	110	84
1.2 Amount	28387	2812	5869	1159
2 Approval Route				
2.1 Number	21	-	4	7
2.2 Amount	13537	-	2532	3017
3 Total (1+2)				
3.1 Number	1020	88	114	91
3.2 Amount	41924	2812	8401	4175
4 Weighted Average Maturity (in years)	5.20	5.80	7.10	8.66
5 Interest Rate (per cent)				
5.1 Weighted Average Margin over 6-month LIBOR or reference rate for Floating Rate Loans	1.20	1.56	1.24	2.01
5.2 Interest rate range for Fixed Rate Loans	0.00-15.00	1.20-10.50	0.00-11.10	0.00-11.00

No. 38: India's Overall Balance of Payments

(US \$ Million)

Item	Oct-Dec 2018(PR)			Oct-Dec 2019(P)		
	Credit	Debit	Net	Credit	Debit	Net
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Overall Balance of Payments(1+2+3)	285511	289806	-4296	314908	293307	21601
1 CURRENT ACCOUNT (1.1+ 1.2)	162792	180544	-17752	162579	163995	-1417
1.1 MERCHANDISE	83082	132363	-49281	81232	115856	-34625
1.2 INVISIBLES (1.2.1+1.2.2+1.2.3)	79710	48181	31529	81347	48139	33208
1.2.1 Services	55075	33397	21678	55158	33278	21880
1.2.1.1 Travel	7372	4865	2508	8545	5569	2977
1.2.1.2 Transportation	4807	5231	-424	5448	6411	-963
1.2.1.3 Insurance	689	419	271	617	549	67
1.2.1.4 G.n.i.e.	144	289	-145	157	218	-62
1.2.1.5 Miscellaneous	42062	22594	19469	40391	20531	19860
1.2.1.5.1 Software Services	21148	1254	19895	23760	2305	21455
1.2.1.5.2 Business Services	9978	10135	-156	11889	12027	-138
1.2.1.5.3 Financial Services	1324	992	332	1183	550	633
1.2.1.5.4 Communication Services	673	284	390	757	308	449
1.2.2 Transfers	18976	1552	17424	20627	1935	18693
1.2.2.1 Official	102	237	-134	50	290	-240
1.2.2.2 Private	18874	1316	17558	20577	1645	18932
1.2.3 Income	5658	13231	-7573	5562	12926	-7364
1.2.3.1 Investment Income	4295	12639	-8344	4122	12232	-8110
1.2.3.2 Compensation of Employees	1363	592	771	1440	694	746
2 CAPITAL ACCOUNT (2.1+2.2+2.3+2.4+2.5)	122719	108948	13770	151666	129312	22355
2.1 Foreign Investment (2.1.1+2.1.2)	73237	68038	5199	94408	76606	17802
2.1.1 Foreign Direct Investment	16130	8820	7309	19713	9740	9973
2.1.1.1 In India	15505	5139	10366	19085	5856	13229
2.1.1.1.1 Equity	11002	5101	5901	11033	5747	5286
2.1.1.1.2 Reinvested Earnings	3450		3450	3590		3590
2.1.1.1.3 Other Capital	1052	38	1014	4462	109	4354
2.1.1.2 Abroad	625	3681	-3056	628	3884	-3256
2.1.1.2.1 Equity	625	1817	-1192	628	1804	-1176
2.1.1.2.2 Reinvested Earnings	0	758	-758	0	788	-788
2.1.1.2.3 Other Capital	0	1106	-1106	0	1293	-1293
2.1.2 Portfolio Investment	57107	59218	-2111	74695	66866	7829
2.1.2.1 In India	56733	58921	-2188	71761	63627	8133
2.1.2.1.1 FIIs	56733	58921	-2188	71761	63627	8133
2.1.2.1.1.1 Equity	45530	47949	-2419	56356	50342	6014
2.1.2.1.1.2 Debt	11203	10972	231	15405	13285	2119
2.1.2.1.2 ADR/GDRs	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.1.2.2 Abroad	374	297	77	2934	3239	-304
2.2 Loans (2.2.1+2.2.2+2.2.3)	20492	17554	2938	23041	19910	3131
2.2.1 External Assistance	2960	1278	1682	2511	1243	1268
2.2.1.1 By India	11	29	-18	2	28	-26
2.2.1.2 To India	2949	1249	1700	2509	1215	1294
2.2.2 Commercial Borrowings	10468	8466	2002	11007	7774	3233
2.2.2.1 By India	3337	3346	-9	2692	2687	5
2.2.2.2 To India	7131	5120	2011	8315	5087	3228
2.2.3 Short Term to India	7064	7809	-745	9523	10893	-1370
2.2.3.1 Buyers' credit & Suppliers' Credit >180 days	4433	7809	-3377	9523	10129	-606
2.2.3.2 Suppliers' Credit up to 180 days	2631	0	2631	0	764	-764
2.3 Banking Capital (2.3.1+2.3.2)	21193	16279	4913	21012	23336	-2324
2.3.1 Commercial Banks	21193	16095	5098	21012	23279	-2266
2.3.1.1 Assets	5964	1763	4202	5753	7260	-1507
2.3.1.2 Liabilities	15228	14332	896	15259	16019	-760
2.3.1.2.1 Non-Resident Deposits	13298	13159	139	14407	13579	828
2.3.2 Others	0	185	-185	0	58	-58
2.4 Rupee Debt Service		0	0		0	0
2.5 Other Capital	7797	7077	720	13205	9460	3745
3 Errors & Omissions		314	-314	663		663
4 Monetary Movements (4.1+ 4.2)	4296	0	4296	0	21601	-21601
4.1 I.M.F.	0	0	0			
4.2 Foreign Exchange Reserves (Increase - / Decrease +)	4296	0	4296	0	21601	-21601

Note : P : Preliminary PR: Partially Revised

No. 39: India's Overall Balance of Payments

(₹ Crore)

Item	Oct-Dec 2018(PR)			Oct-Dec 2019(P)		
	Credit	Debit	Net	Credit	Debit	Net
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Overall Balance of Payments(1+2+3)	2057747	2088707	-30960	2243026	2089165	153861
1 CURRENT ACCOUNT (1.1+ 1.2)	1173282	1301224	-127943	1158014	1168105	-10091
1.1 MERCHANDISE	598791	953970	-355179	578595	825220	-246625
1.2 INVISIBLES (1.2.1+1.2.2+1.2.3)	574491	347254	227236	579419	342885	236534
1.2.1 Services	396941	240704	156237	392878	237033	155845
1.2.1.1 Travel	53135	35060	18075	60866	39664	21202
1.2.1.2 Transportation	34647	37704	-3057	38802	45662	-6860
1.2.1.3 Insurance	4967	3016	1950	4395	3914	481
1.2.1.4 G.n.i.e.	1039	2086	-1047	1116	1555	-438
1.2.1.5 Miscellaneous	303153	162837	140316	287699	146238	141461
1.2.1.5.1 Software Services	152422	9037	143385	169238	16420	152819
1.2.1.5.2 Business Services	71917	73043	-1126	84680	85666	-986
1.2.1.5.3 Financial Services	9541	7149	2392	8427	3917	4510
1.2.1.5.4 Communication Services	4854	2046	2808	5390	2194	3196
1.2.2 Transfers	136768	11188	125580	146924	13780	133143
1.2.2.1 Official	738	1705	-967	358	2066	-1708
1.2.2.2 Private	136030	9483	126547	146566	11714	134852
1.2.3 Income	40781	95362	-54581	39617	92072	-52455
1.2.3.1 Investment Income	30957	91096	-60139	29362	87129	-57766
1.2.3.2 Compensation of Employees	9824	4266	5558	10255	4943	5312
2 CAPITAL ACCOUNT (2.1+2.2+2.3+2.4+2.5)	884465	785218	99247	1080286	921060	159227
2.1 Foreign Investment (2.1.1+2.1.2)	527835	490368	37468	672447	545645	126802
2.1.1 Foreign Direct Investment	116250	63571	52680	140410	69373	71037
2.1.1.1 In India	111745	37038	74707	135938	41710	94229
2.1.1.1.1 Equity	79294	36764	42530	78585	40936	37649
2.1.1.1.2 Reinvested Earnings	24868	0	24868	25569		25569
2.1.1.1.3 Other Capital	7583	274	7309	31784	774	31011
2.1.1.2 Abroad	4505	26532	-22027	4472	27664	-23192
2.1.1.2.1 Equity	4505	13097	-8592	4472	12846	-8375
2.1.1.2.2 Reinvested Earnings	0	5464	-5464		5611	-5611
2.1.1.2.3 Other Capital	0	7971	-7971	0	9207	-9207
2.1.2 Portfolio Investment	411585	426797	-15212	532037	476272	55765
2.1.2.1 In India	408890	424658	-15768	511136	453204	57933
2.1.2.1.1 FIIs	408890	424658	-15768	511136	453204	57933
2.1.2.1.1.1 Equity	328145	345579	-17434	401412	358574	42838
2.1.2.1.1.2 Debt	80746	79080	1666	109725	94630	15095
2.1.2.1.2 ADR/GDRs	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.1.2.2 Abroad	2695	2139	556	20901	23068	-2168
2.2 Loans (2.2.1+2.2.2+2.2.3)	147693	126518	21175	164114	141812	22303
2.2.1 External Assistance	21334	9213	12121	17887	8856	9031
2.2.1.1 By India	81	209	-128	14	201	-187
2.2.1.2 To India	21253	9004	12249	17873	8655	9218
2.2.2 Commercial Borrowings	75446	61020	14425	78398	55370	23028
2.2.2.1 By India	24052	24119	-67	19175	19136	39
2.2.2.2 To India	51394	36901	14493	59224	36234	22990
2.2.3 Short Term to India	50913	56284	-5372	67829	77586	-9757
2.2.3.1 Buyers' credit & Suppliers' Credit >180 days	31949	56284	-24335	67829	72147	-4318
2.2.3.2 Suppliers' Credit up to 180 days	18964	0	18964	0	5439	-5439
2.3 Banking Capital (2.3.1+2.3.2)	152740	117328	35412	149666	166220	-16553
2.3.1 Commercial Banks	152740	115997	36743	149666	165808	-16142
2.3.1.1 Assets	42987	12706	30281	40978	51709	-10731
2.3.1.2 Liabilities	109753	103292	6461	108688	114099	-5411
2.3.1.2.1 Non-Resident Deposits	95839	94838	1001	102621	96723	5898
2.3.2 Others	0	1331	-1331	0	411	-411
2.4 Rupee Debt Service	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.5 Other Capital	56197	51005	5192	94059	67383	26675
3 Errors & Omissions	0	2264	-2264	4725	0	4725
4 Monetary Movements (4.1+ 4.2)	30960	0	30960	0	153861	-153861
4.1 I.M.F.	0	0	0			
4.2 Foreign Exchange Reserves (Increase - / Decrease +)	30960	0	30960	0	153861	-153861

Note : P: Preliminary PR: Partially Revised

No. 40: Standard Presentation of BoP in India as per BPM6

(US \$ Million)

Item	Oct-Dec 2018(PR)			Oct-Dec 2019(P)		
	Credit	Debit	Net	Credit	Debit	Net
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1 Current Account (1.A+1.B+1.C)	162786	180523	-17738	162576	163968	-1391
1.A Goods and Services (1.A.a+1.A.b)	138157	165760	-27603	136389	149134	-12745
1.A.a Goods (1.A.a.1 to 1.A.a.3)	83082	132363	-49281	81232	115856	-34625
1.A.a.1 General merchandise on a BOP basis	82438	125275	-42837	80294	108605	-28311
1.A.a.2 Net exports of goods under merchandising	643	0	643	938		938
1.A.a.3 Nonmonetary gold		7087	-7087		7252	-7252
1.A.b Services (1.A.b.1 to 1.A.b.13)	55075	33397	21678	55158	33278	21880
1.A.b.1 Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others	99	13	87	76	9	67
1.A.b.2 Maintenance and repair services n.i.e.	64	376	-313	64	207	-143
1.A.b.3 Transport	4807	5231	-424	5448	6411	-963
1.A.b.4 Travel	7372	4865	2508	8545	5569	2977
1.A.b.5 Construction	865	618	247	734	570	164
1.A.b.6 Insurance and pension services	689	419	271	617	549	67
1.A.b.7 Financial services	1324	992	332	1183	550	633
1.A.b.8 Charges for the use of intellectual property n.i.e.	182	2173	-1990	184	2197	-2013
1.A.b.9 Telecommunications, computer, and information services	21907	1629	20278	24592	2712	21880
1.A.b.10 Other business services	9978	10135	-156	11889	12027	-138
1.A.b.11 Personal, cultural, and recreational services	459	583	-124	535	757	-222
1.A.b.12 Government goods and services n.i.e.	144	289	-145	157	218	-62
1.A.b.13 Others n.i.e.	7183	6075	1108	1134	1502	-367
1.B Primary Income (1.B.1 to 1.B.3)	5658	13231	-7573	5562	12926	-7364
1.B.1 Compensation of employees	1363	592	771	1440	694	746
1.B.2 Investment income	3438	12472	-9035	3312	12078	-8767
1.B.2.1 Direct investment	1668	6495	-4827	1369	5760	-4391
1.B.2.2 Portfolio investment	35	2311	-2277	28	2435	-2408
1.B.2.3 Other investment	204	3653	-3449	138	3871	-3733
1.B.2.4 Reserve assets	1531	14	1517	1777	12	1764
1.B.3 Other primary income	857	167	690	811	154	657
1.C Secondary Income (1.C.1+1.C.2)	18970	1532	17438	20625	1907	18718
1.C.1 Financial corporations, nonfinancial corporations, households, and NPISHs	18874	1316	17558	20577	1645	18932
1.C.1.1 Personal transfers (Current transfers between resident and/	18200	987	17213	19862	1189	18673
1.C.1.2 Other current transfers	674	329	345	715	455	260
1.C.2 General government	96	216	-120	48	262	-214
2 Capital Account (2.1+2.2)	71	147	-76	108	258	-150
2.1 Gross acquisitions (DR./)disposals (CR.) of non-produced nonfinancial assets	5	42	-36	19	108	-89
2.2 Capital transfers	66	106	-40	89	150	-61
3 Financial Account (3.1 to 3.5)	126950	108822	18128	151560	150683	878
3.1 Direct Investment (3.1A+3.1B)	16130	8820	7309	19713	9740	9973
3.1.A Direct Investment in India	15505	5139	10366	19085	5856	13229
3.1.A.1 Equity and investment fund shares	14452	5101	9351	14623	5747	8875
3.1.A.1.1 Equity other than reinvestment of earnings	11002	5101	5901	11033	5747	5286
3.1.A.1.2 Reinvestment of earnings	3450		3450	3590		3590
3.1.A.2 Debt instruments	1052	38	1014	4462	109	4354
3.1.A.2.1 Direct investor in direct investment enterprises	1052	38	1014	4462	109	4354
3.1.B Direct Investment by India	625	3681	-3056	628	3884	-3256
3.1.B.1 Equity and investment fund shares	625	2575	-1950	628	2591	-1963
3.1.B.1.1 Equity other than reinvestment of earnings	625	1817	-1192	628	1804	-1176
3.1.B.1.2 Reinvestment of earnings		758	-758		788	-788
3.1.B.2 Debt instruments	0	1106	-1106	0	1293	-1293
3.1.B.2.1 Direct investor in direct investment enterprises		1106	-1106		1293	-1293
3.2 Portfolio Investment	57107	59218	-2111	74695	66866	7829
3.2.A Portfolio Investment in India	56733	58921	-2188	71761	63627	8133
3.2.1 Equity and investment fund shares	45530	47949	-2419	56356	50342	6014
3.2.2 Debt securities	11203	10972	231	15405	13285	2119
3.2.B Portfolio Investment by India	374	297	77	2934	3239	-304
3.3 Financial derivatives (other than reserves) and employee stock options	5859	5362	497	7328	7194	134
3.4 Other investment	43559	35422	8137	49825	45282	4542
3.4.1 Other equity (ADRs/GDRs)	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.4.2 Currency and deposits	13298	13343	-46	14407	13637	770
3.4.2.1 Central bank (Rupee Debt Movements; NRG)	0	185	-185	0	58	-58
3.4.2.2 Deposit-taking corporations, except the central bank (NRI Deposits)	13298	13159	139	14407	13579	828
3.4.2.3 General government						
3.4.2.4 Other sectors						
3.4.3 Loans (External Assistance, ECBs and Banking Capital)	21323	12681	8642	20123	18716	1407
3.4.3.A Loans to India	17975	9305	8670	17429	16001	1428
3.4.3.B Loans by India	3348	3376	-27	2694	2715	-21
3.4.4 Insurance, pension, and standardized guarantee schemes	29	207	-179	190	660	-469
3.4.5 Trade credit and advances	7064	7809	-745	9523	10893	-1370
3.4.6 Other accounts receivable/payable - other	1845	1381	464	5581	1377	4205
3.4.7 Special drawing rights						0
3.5 Reserve assets	4296	0	4296	0	21601	-21601
3.5.1 Monetary gold						0
3.5.2 Special drawing rights n.a.						0
3.5.3 Reserve position in the IMF n.a.						0
3.5.4 Other reserve assets (Foreign Currency Assets)	4296	0	4296	0	21601	-21601
4 Total assets/liabilities	126950	108822	18128	151560	150683	878
4.1 Equity and investment fund shares	66869	61491	5378	82059	69772	12287
4.2 Debt instruments	53940	45950	7991	63920	57933	5988
4.3 Other financial assets and liabilities	6141	1381	4759	5581	22978	-17396
5 Net errors and omissions		314	-314	663		663

Note : P : Preliminary PR: Partially Revised

No. 41: Standard Presentation of BoP in India as per BPM6

(₹ Crore)

Item	Oct-Dec 2018(PR)			Oct-Dec 2019(P)		
	Credit	Debit	Net	Credit	Debit	Net
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1 Current Account (1.A+1.B+1.C)	1173236	1301076	-127839	1157998	1167908	-9910
1.A Goods and Services (1.A.a+1.A.b)	995732	1194674	-198942	971473	1062253	-90780
1.A.a Goods (1.A.a.1 to 1.A.a.3)	598791	953970	-355179	578595	825220	-246625
1.A.a.1 General merchandise on a BOP basis	594154	902892	-308738	571916	773569	-201652
1.A.a.2 Net exports of goods under merchanting	4637	0	4637	6679	0	6679
1.A.a.3 Nonmonetary gold	0	51078	-51078	0	51652	-51652
1.A.b Services (1.A.b.1 to 1.A.b.13)	396941	240704	156237	392878	237033	155845
1.A.b.1 Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others	716	91	626	543	63	480
1.A.b.2 Maintenance and repair services n.i.e.	460	2713	-2254	456	1477	-1021
1.A.b.3 Transport	34647	37704	-3057	38802	45662	-6860
1.A.b.4 Travel	53135	35060	18075	60866	39664	21202
1.A.b.5 Construction	6235	4455	1781	5227	4057	1170
1.A.b.6 Insurance and pension services	4967	3016	1950	4395	3914	481
1.A.b.7 Financial services	9541	7149	2392	8427	3917	4510
1.A.b.8 Charges for the use of intellectual property n.i.e.	1314	15658	-14344	1312	15650	-14338
1.A.b.9 Telecommunications, computer, and information services	157892	11741	146151	175162	19318	155844
1.A.b.10 Other business services	71917	73043	-1126	84680	85666	-986
1.A.b.11 Personal, cultural, and recreational services	3311	4203	-892	3813	5395	-1582
1.A.b.12 Government goods and services n.i.e.	1039	2086	-1047	1116	1555	-438
1.A.b.13 Others n.i.e.	51768	43785	7982	8079	10696	-2617
1.B Primary Income (1.B.1 to 1.B.3)	40781	95362	-54581	39617	92072	-52455
1.B.1 Compensation of employees	9824	4266	5558	10255	4943	5312
1.B.2 Investment income	24777	89892	-65115	23588	86031	-62443
1.B.2.1 Direct investment	12022	46809	-34787	9753	41027	-31274
1.B.2.2 Portfolio investment	250	16658	-16408	199	17347	-17148
1.B.2.3 Other investment	1471	26327	-24857	982	27570	-26588
1.B.2.4 Reserve assets	11034	97	10936	12655	88	12567
1.B.3 Other primary income	6180	1204	4976	5774	1097	4677
1.C Secondary Income (1.C.1+1.C.2)	136723	11039	125684	146908	13584	133324
1.C.1 Financial corporations, nonfinancial corporations, households, and NPISHs	136030	9483	126547	146566	11714	134852
1.C.1.1 Personal transfers (Current transfers between resident and/	131173	7113	124060	141473	8471	133002
1.C.1.2 Other current transfers	4857	2370	2487	5093	3243	1850
1.C.2 General government	693	1556	-864	342	1869	-1527
2 Capital Account (2.1+2.2)	512	1063	-550	770	1837	-1068
2.1 Gross acquisitions (DR.)/disposals (CR.) of non-produced nonfinancial assets	39	299	-260	132	768	-636
2.2 Capital transfers	473	763	-290	637	1069	-432
3 Financial Account (3.1 to 3.5)	914958	784305	130653	1079533	1073281	6253
3.1 Direct Investment (3.1.A+3.1.B)	116250	63571	52680	140410	69373	71037
3.1.A Direct Investment in India	111745	37038	74707	135938	41710	94229
3.1.A.1 Equity and investment fund shares	104162	36764	67398	104154	40936	63218
3.1.A.1.1 Equity other than reinvestment of earnings	79294	36764	42530	78585	40936	37649
3.1.A.1.2 Reinvestment of earnings	24868	0	24868	25569	0	25569
3.1.A.2 Debt instruments	7583	274	7309	31784	774	31011
3.1.A.2.1 Direct investor in direct investment enterprises	7583	274	7309	31784	774	31011
3.1.B Direct Investment by India	4505	26532	-22027	4472	27664	-23192
3.1.B.1 Equity and investment fund shares	4505	18561	-14056	4472	18457	-13985
3.1.B.1.1 Equity other than reinvestment of earnings	4505	13097	-8592	4472	12846	-8375
3.1.B.1.2 Reinvestment of earnings	0	5464	-5464	0	5611	-5611
3.1.B.2 Debt instruments	0	7971	-7971	0	9207	-9207
3.1.B.2.1 Direct investor in direct investment enterprises	0	7971	-7971	0	9207	-9207
3.2 Portfolio Investment	411585	426797	-15212	532037	476272	55765
3.2.A Portfolio Investment in India	408890	424658	-15768	511136	453204	57933
3.2.1 Equity and investment fund shares	328145	345579	-17434	401412	358574	42838
3.2.2 Debt securities	80746	79080	1666	109725	94630	15095
3.2.B Portfolio Investment by India	2695	2139	556	20901	23068	-2168
3.3 Financial derivatives (other than reserves) and employee stock options	42225	38642	3583	52196	51239	957
3.4 Other investment	313938	255295	58642	354890	322535	32355
3.4.1 Other equity (ADRs/GDRs)	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.4.2 Currency and deposits	95839	96169	-330	102621	97135	5486
3.4.2.1 Central bank (Rupee Debt Movements; NRG)	0	1331	-1331	0	411	-411
3.4.2.2 Deposit-taking corporations, except the central bank (NRI Deposits)	95839	94838	1001	102621	96723	5898
3.4.2.3 General government	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.4.2.4 Other sectors	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.4.3 Loans (External Assistance, ECBs and Banking Capital)	153680	91392	62288	143331	133310	10020
3.4.3.A Loans to India	129547	67064	62483	124142	113973	10168
3.4.3.B Loans by India	24133	24328	-195	19189	19337	-148
3.4.4 Insurance, pension, and standardized guarantee schemes	207	1494	-1287	1355	4699	-3344
3.4.5 Trade credit and advances	50913	56284	-5372	67829	77586	-9757
3.4.6 Other accounts receivable/payable - other	13298	9955	3343	39755	9805	29949
3.4.7 Special drawing rights	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.5 Reserve assets	30960	0	30960	0	153861	-153861
3.5.1 Monetary gold						
3.5.2 Special drawing rights n.a.						
3.5.3 Reserve position in the IMF n.a.						
3.5.4 Other reserve assets (Foreign Currency Assets)	30960	0	30960	0	153861	-153861
4 Total assets/liabilities	914958	784305	130653	1079533	1073281	6253
4.1 Equity and investment fund shares	481939	443179	38761	584489	496972	87516
4.2 Debt instruments	388761	331171	57590	455289	412642	42648
4.3 Other financial assets and liabilities	44258	9955	34302	39755	163666	-123912
5 Net errors and omissions	0	2264	-2264	4725	0	4725

Note : P: Preliminary PR: Partially Revised

No. 42: International Investment Position

(US\$ Million)

Item	As on Financial Year /Quarter End							
	2018-19		2018		2019			
			Dec.		Sep.		Dec.	
	Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1 Direct Investment Abroad/in India	169964	399229	166594	386172	175438	417137	178694	426928
1.1 Equity Capital and Reinvested Earnings	111122	382105	109875	369544	114340	398819	116303	404393
1.2 Other Capital	58841	17124	56719	16628	61099	18318	62392	22536
2 Portfolio Investment	4699	260313	2666	245842	4541	260001	4845	266707
2.1 Equity	590	147479	1386	138091	2344	144039	2619	148859
2.2 Debt	4109	112834	1280	107752	2197	115962	2226	117848
3 Other Investment	54538	419092	41550	401165	55406	428901	54006	430301
3.1 Trade Credit	924	105192	252	103657	1707	106581	2286	105214
3.2 Loan	9884	167924	6553	160322	7895	174838	6183	177286
3.3 Currency and Deposits	25158	130644	17211	125997	27563	133105	27099	133331
3.4 Other Assets/Liabilities	18574	15332	17534	11190	18240	14378	18438	14469
4 Reserves	412871		395591		433707		459863	
5 Total Assets/ Liabilities	642072	1078634	606401	1033179	669092	1106039	697409	1123937
6 IIP (Assets - Liabilities)		-436563		-426779		-436947		-426528

Payment and Settlement Systems

No.43: Payment System Indicators

PART I - Payment System Indicators - Payment & Settlement System Statistics

System	Volume (Lakh)				Value (₹ Crore)			
	FY 2018-19	2019	2020		FY 2018-19	2019	2020	
		Feb.	Jan.	Feb.		Feb.	Jan.	Feb.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
A. Settlement Systems								
Financial Market Infrastructures (FMIs)								
1 CCIL Operated Systems (1.1 to 1.3)	–	–	3.01	2.80	–	–	12826782	10821111
1.1 Govt. Securities Clearing (1.1.1 to 1.1.3)	–	–	1.09	1.17	–	–	8442926	6868007
1.1.1 Outright	–	–	0.66	0.82	–	–	957188	1209395
1.1.2 Repo	–	–	0.21	0.19	–	–	2999019	2604693
1.1.3 Tri-party Repo	–	–	0.22	0.16	–	–	4486719	3053919
1.2 Forex Clearing	–	–	1.88	1.59	–	–	4083916	3603514
1.3 Rupee Derivatives @	–	–	0.05	0.04	–	–	299940	349590
B. Payment Systems								
I Financial Market Infrastructures (FMIs)								
1 Credit Transfers - RTGS (1.1 to 1.2)	–	–	137.29	133.16	–	–	9880821	8990097
1.1 Customer Transactions	–	–	135.09	131.07	–	–	8558049	7718135
1.2 Interbank Transactions	–	–	2.20	2.08	–	–	1322772	1271962
II Retail								
2 Credit Transfers - Retail (2.1 to 2.7)	–	–	21194.27	20409.50	–	–	2454422	2396212
2.1 AePS (Fund Transfers) @	–	–	0.76	0.74	–	–	37	40
2.2 APBS \$	–	–	1511.41	1400.59	–	–	9427	8889
2.3 ECS Cr	–	–	0.09	0.00	–	–	43	–
2.4 IMPS	–	–	2595.26	2477.98	–	–	216811	214566
2.5 NACH Cr \$	–	–	1431.01	789.68	–	–	82398	79707
2.6 NEFT	–	–	2605.55	2483.57	–	–	1929464	1870494
2.7 UPI @	–	–	13050.19	13256.93	–	–	216243	222517
2.7.1 of which USSD @	–	–	0.78	0.70	–	–	14	12
3 Debit Transfers and Direct Debits (3.1 to 3.4)	–	–	812.33	827.05	–	–	73506	73479
3.1 BHIM Aadhaar Pay @	–	–	9.36	9.67	–	–	141	149
3.2 ECS Dr	–	–	0.00	0.00	–	–	–	–
3.3 NACH Dr \$	–	–	777.36	789.31	–	–	73316	73277
3.4 NETC (linked to bank account) @	–	–	25.61	28.07	–	–	49	53
4 Card Payments (4.1 to 4.2)	–	–	6654.46	6264.71	–	–	151147	142375
4.1 Credit Cards (4.1.1 to 4.1.2)	–	–	2017.27	1882.94	–	–	66573	62148
4.1.1 PoS based \$	–	–	1160.35	1072.50	–	–	35124	33446
4.1.2 Others \$	–	–	856.92	810.44	–	–	31449	28701
4.2 Debit Cards (4.2.1 to 4.2.1)	–	–	4637.19	4381.77	–	–	84575	80227
4.2.1 PoS based \$	–	–	2587.38	2455.92	–	–	38907	36258
4.2.2 Others \$	–	–	2049.81	1925.85	–	–	45667	43968
5 Prepaid Payment Instruments (5.1 to 5.2)	–	–	5237.05	5026.37	–	–	18286	17296
5.1 Wallets	–	–	3876.23	3782.82	–	–	15408	14461
5.2 Cards (5.2.1 to 5.2.2)	–	–	1360.82	1243.55	–	–	2878	2836
5.2.1 PoS based \$	–	–	128.35	115.30	–	–	997	1116
5.2.2 Others \$	–	–	1232.47	1128.25	–	–	1880	1719
6 Paper-based Instruments (6.1 to 6.2)	–	–	887.17	884.95	–	–	662399	659458
6.1 CTS (NPCI Managed)	–	–	886.39	884.58	–	–	661741	659157
6.2 Others	–	–	0.78	0.37	–	–	658	301
Total - Retail Payments (2+3+4+5+6)	–	–	34785.27	33412.57	–	–	3359760	3288820
Total Payments (1+2+3+4+5+6)	–	–	34922.56	33545.73	–	–	13240581	12278916
Total Digital Payments (1+2+3+4+5)	–	–	34035.39	32660.78	–	–	12578182	11619458

PART II - Payment Modes and Channels

System	Volume (Lakh)				Value (₹ Crore)			
	FY 2018-19	2019	2020		FY 2018-19	2019	2020	
		Feb.	Jan.	Feb.		Feb.	Jan.	Feb.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
A. Other Payment Channels								
1 Mobile Payments (mobile app based) (1.1 to 1.2)								
1.1 Intra-bank \$	–	–	14402.70	14284.28	–	–	521368	525845
1.2 Inter-bank \$	–	–	1304.45	1304.52	–	–	107648	108332
2 Internet Payments (Netbanking / Internet Browser Based) @ (2.1 to 2.2)	–	–	13098.24	12979.75	–	–	413720	417513
2.1 Intra-bank @	–	–	2749.95	2837.88	–	–	3162106	2881819
2.2 Inter-bank @	–	–	612.52	630.85	–	–	1641898	1313016
B. ATMs								
3 Cash Withdrawal at ATMs \$ (3.1 to 3.3)								
3.1 Using Credit Cards \$	–	–	6568.95	6203.24	–	–	298514	286006
3.2 Using Debit Cards \$	–	–	8.53	7.97	–	–	399	379
3.3 Using Pre-paid Cards \$	–	–	6531.99	6167.30	–	–	297116	284652
4 Cash Withdrawal at PoS \$ (4.1 to 4.2)								
4.1 Using Debit Cards \$	–	–	102.47	65.97	–	–	177	194
4.2 Using Pre-paid Cards \$	–	–	92.41	59.42	–	–	163	132
5 Cash Withdrawal at Micro ATMs @								
5.1 AePS @	–	–	400.77	386.44	–	–	11109	11201

PART III - Payment Infrastructures (Lakh)

System	FY 2018-19	2019	2020	
		Feb.	Jan.	Feb.
	1	2	3	4
Payment System Infrastructures				
1 Number of Cards (1.1 to 1.2)				
1.1 Credit Cards	–	–	8725.30	8801.81
1.2 Debit Cards	–	–	561.20	571.58
2 Number of PPIs @ (2.1 to 2.2)	–	–	8164.10	8230.23
2.1 Wallets @	–	–	17574.74	18000.38
2.2 Cards @	–	–	16575.31	16809.60
3 Number of ATMs (3.1 to 3.2)	–	–	999.43	1190.78
3.1 Bank owned ATMs \$	–	–	2.33	2.34
3.2 White Label ATMs \$	–	–	2.10	2.11
4 Number of Micro ATMs @	–	–	0.23	0.23
5 Number of PoS Terminals	–	–	2.56	2.64
6 Bharat QR @	–	–	49.47	51.00
	–	–	17.79	18.96

@: New inclusion w.e.f. November 2019

\$: Inclusion separately initiated from November 2019 - would have been part of other items hitherto.

Note : 1. Data is provisional.

2. The data for November 2019 for card payments (Debit/Credit cards) and Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs) may not be comparable with earlier months/ periods, as more granular data is being published along with revision in data definitions.

3. Only domestic financial transactions are considered. The new format captures e-commerce transactions; transactions using FASTags; digital bill payments and card-to-card transfer through ATMs, etc.. Also, failed transactions, chargebacks, reversals, expired cards/ wallets, are excluded.

Occasional Series

No. 44: Small Savings

(₹ Crore)

Scheme		2018-19	2018	2019		
			Nov.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.
		1	2	3	4	5
1 Small Savings	Receipts	115714	8671	-432	9717	14106
	Outstanding	918459	870336	974938	985145	999208
1.1 Total Deposits	Receipts	91108	7262	-2412	7874	10876
	Outstanding	618418	584853	662945	670819	681695
1.1.1 Post Office Saving Bank Deposits	Receipts	31037	1650	-9655	1704	1881
	Outstanding	140247	127270	143422	145126	147007
1.1.2 MGNREG	Receipts					
	Outstanding					
1.1.3 National Saving Scheme, 1987	Receipts	-31	38	-19	-12	80
	Outstanding	3107	2947	2947	2935	3015
1.1.4 National Saving Scheme, 1992	Receipts	53	-2	-2	-5	823
	Outstanding	10	-11	-9	-14	809
1.1.5 Monthly Income Scheme	Receipts	10967	938	1246	1086	1584
	Outstanding	192658	188723	199037	200123	201707
1.1.6 Senior Citizen Scheme 2004	Receipts	13990	1197	1521	1408	1706
	Outstanding	55708	50840	64280	65688	67394
1.1.7 Post Office Time Deposits	Receipts	25000	2089	3229	2606	3625
	Outstanding	124292	114411	142095	144701	148326
1.1.7.1 1 year Time Deposits	Outstanding	71534	66578	81128	82377	84270
1.1.7.2 2 year Time Deposits	Outstanding	5910	5478	6451	6531	6637
1.1.7.3 3 year Time Deposits	Outstanding	6901	6792	7155	7193	7262
1.1.7.4 5 year Time Deposits	Outstanding	39947	35563	47361	48600	50157
1.1.8 Post Office Recurring Deposits	Receipts	10081	1352	1268	1087	1177
	Outstanding	102401	100689	111177	112264	113441
1.1.9 Post Office Cumulative Time Deposits	Receipts	11	0	0	0	0
	Outstanding	-26	-37	-25	-25	-25
1.1.10 Other Deposits	Receipts	0	0	0	0	0
	Outstanding	21	21	21	21	21
1.2 Saving Certificates	Receipts	16067	1223	2230	1634	2580
	Outstanding	221517	214368	232925	235049	237586
1.2.1 National Savings Certificate VIII issue	Receipts	11318	962	1304	905	1717
	Outstanding	98492	91250	105156	106061	107778
1.2.2 Indira Vikas Patras	Receipts	334	0	-53	-1	0
	Outstanding	263	283	-288	-289	-289
1.2.3 Kisan Vikas Patras	Receipts	-18678	-1669	-1135	-822	-1090
	Outstanding	19303	26391	9665	8843	7753
1.2.4 Kisan Vikas Patras - 2014	Receipts	23018	1915	2120	1552	1953
	Outstanding	93630	84895	107743	109295	111248
1.2.5 National Saving Certificate VI issue	Receipts	93	15	-6	0	0
	Outstanding	2	-81	-179	-179	-179
1.2.6 National Saving Certificate VII issue	Receipts	-18	0	0	0	0
	Outstanding	-80	-81	-82	-82	-82
1.2.7 Other Certificates	Outstanding	9907	11711	10910	11400	11357
1.3 Public Provident Fund	Receipts	8539	186	-250	209	650
	Outstanding	78524	71115	79068	79277	79927

Source: Accountant General, Post and Telegraphs.

Note : Data on receipts from April 2017 are net receipts, i.e., gross receipt minus gross payment.

No. 45 : Ownership Pattern of Central and State Governments Securities

(Per cent)

Central Government Dated Securities					
Category	2018	2019			
	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.	Sep.	Dec.
	1	2	3	4	5
(A) Total (in ₹. Crore)	5758103	5921026	6072243	6314426	6512659
1 Commercial Banks	40.51	40.28	39.05	39.66	39.05
2 Non-Bank PDs	0.33	0.31	0.36	0.42	0.39
3 Insurance Companies	24.57	24.34	24.88	24.86	24.90
4 Mutual Funds	0.64	0.35	0.64	0.77	1.53
5 Co-operative Banks	2.38	2.29	2.17	2.01	1.97
6 Financial Institutions	1.01	1.05	1.05	1.15	1.14
7 Corporates	1.05	0.97	0.99	0.92	0.84
8 Foreign Portfolio Investors	3.60	3.22	3.27	3.31	3.33
9 Provident Funds	5.54	5.47	5.35	4.87	4.93
10 RBI	13.81	15.27	15.67	14.99	14.72
11. Others	6.55	6.46	6.57	7.05	7.23
11.1 State Governments	1.97	2.00	2.02	1.99	1.97

State Governments Securities					
Category	2018	2019			
	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.	Sep.	Dec.
	1	2	3	4	5
(B) Total (in ₹. Crore)	2669393	2777229	2826935	2905169	3047353
1 Commercial Banks	34.00	33.87	32.57	32.53	32.46
2 Non-Bank PDs	0.60	0.58	0.81	0.72	0.64
3 Insurance Companies	33.90	33.04	33.94	33.39	32.50
4 Mutual Funds	1.23	1.20	1.24	1.12	1.20
5 Co-operative Banks	4.67	4.55	4.65	4.24	4.16
6 Financial Institutions	0.37	0.42	0.44	0.33	0.31
7 Corporates	0.22	0.29	0.32	0.28	0.31
8 Foreign Portfolio Investors	0.09	0.09	0.08	0.05	0.04
9 Provident Funds	21.29	22.15	21.88	22.36	23.66
10 RBI	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11. Others	3.64	3.81	4.08	4.98	4.73
11.1 State Governments	0.07	0.11	0.14	0.16	0.17

Treasury Bills					
Category	2018	2019			
	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.	Sep.	Dec.
	1	2	3	4	5
(C) Total (in ₹. Crore)	529826	412704	524618	538041	514588
1 Commercial Banks	53.76	57.56	53.60	50.81	45.19
2 Non-Bank PDs	2.06	2.68	1.85	1.92	2.07
3 Insurance Companies	4.74	6.61	5.13	5.55	5.76
4 Mutual Funds	5.65	2.78	13.00	14.08	20.42
5 Co-operative Banks	1.21	2.48	2.54	2.55	2.07
6 Financial Institutions	1.88	2.49	2.14	1.82	2.12
7 Corporates	1.86	2.23	1.67	1.57	1.66
8 Foreign Portfolio Investors	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9 Provident Funds	0.02	0.08	0.07	0.01	0.01
10 RBI	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11. Others	28.81	23.10	19.99	21.70	20.70
11.1 State Governments	24.04	17.91	15.59	17.91	16.36

No. 46: Combined Receipts and Disbursements of the Central and State Governments

(₹ Crore)

Item	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 RE	2019-20 BE
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1 Total Disbursements	3285210	3760611	4265969	4515946	5516932	6071777
1.1 Developmental	1872062	2201287	2537905	2635110	3344948	3660857
1.1.1 Revenue	1483018	1668250	1878417	2029044	2543965	2830634
1.1.2 Capital	332262	412069	501213	519356	694352	732102
1.1.3 Loans	56782	120968	158275	86710	106630	98121
1.2 Non-Developmental	1366769	1510810	1672646	1812455	2089516	2315637
1.2.1 Revenue	1269520	1379727	1555239	1741432	2002766	2204742
1.2.1.1 Interest Payments	584542	648091	724448	814757	901783	1009776
1.2.2 Capital	94687	127306	115775	69370	85375	109030
1.2.3 Loans	2563	3777	1632	1654	1375	1865
1.3 Others	46379	48514	55417	68381	82469	95284
2 Total Receipts	3189737	3778049	4288432	4528422	5364245	6003162
2.1 Revenue Receipts	2387693	2748374	3132201	3376416	4205473	4653758
2.1.1 Tax Receipts	2020728	2297101	2622145	2978134	3512454	3910428
2.1.1.1 Taxes on commodities and services	1212348	1440952	1652377	1853859	2186529	2399337
2.1.1.2 Taxes on Income and Property	805176	852271	965622	1121189	1323113	1506912
2.1.1.3 Taxes of Union Territories (Without Legislature)	3204	3878	4146	3086	2812	4179
2.1.2 Non-Tax Receipts	366965	451272	510056	398282	693019	743330
2.1.2.1 Interest Receipts	39622	35779	33220	34224	36739	33619
2.2 Non-debt Capital Receipts	60955	59827	69063	142433	136636	170056
2.2.1 Recovery of Loans & Advances	22072	16561	20942	42213	56398	63131
2.2.2 Disinvestment proceeds	38883	43266	48122	100219	80238	106926
3 Gross Fiscal Deficit [1 - (2.1 + 2.2)]	836563	952410	1064704	997097	1174823	1247962
3A Sources of Financing: Institution-wise						
3A.1 Domestic Financing	823630	939662	1046708	989167	1179716	1250914
3A.1.1 Net Bank Credit to Government	-37476	231090	617123	144792	386389	...
3A.1.1.1 Net RBI Credit to Government	-334185	60472	195816	-144847	325987	...
3A.1.2 Non-Bank Credit to Government	861106	708572	429585	844375	793327	----
3A.2 External Financing	12933	12748	17997	7931	-4893	-2952
3B Sources of Financing: Instrument-wise						
3B.1 Domestic Financing	823630	939662	1046708	989167	1179716	1250914
3B.1.1 Market Borrowings (net)	664058	673298	689821	794856	831554	959294
3B.1.2 Small Savings (net)	-56580	-78515	-105038	-163222	-217165	-208528
3B.1.3 State Provident Funds (net)	34339	35261	45688	42351	42703	42482
3B.1.4 Reserve Funds	5109	-3322	-6436	18423	-14577	-871
3B.1.5 Deposits and Advances	27545	13470	17792	25138	16011	13706
3B.1.6 Cash Balances	95474	-17438	-22463	-12476	152688	68615
3B.1.7 Others	53684	316908	427343	284095	368504	376216
3B.2 External Financing	12933	12748	17997	7931	-4893	-2952
<i>4 Total Disbursements as per cent of GDP</i>	<i>26.3</i>	<i>27.3</i>	<i>27.8</i>	<i>26.4</i>	<i>29.0</i>	<i>28.8</i>
<i>5 Total Receipts as per cent of GDP</i>	<i>25.6</i>	<i>27.4</i>	<i>27.9</i>	<i>26.5</i>	<i>28.2</i>	<i>28.5</i>
<i>6 Revenue Receipts as per cent of GDP</i>	<i>19.2</i>	<i>20.0</i>	<i>20.4</i>	<i>19.8</i>	<i>22.1</i>	<i>22.1</i>
<i>7 Tax Receipts as per cent of GDP</i>	<i>16.2</i>	<i>16.7</i>	<i>17.1</i>	<i>17.4</i>	<i>18.5</i>	<i>18.5</i>
<i>8 Gross Fiscal Deficit as per cent of GDP</i>	<i>6.7</i>	<i>6.9</i>	<i>6.9</i>	<i>5.8</i>	<i>6.2</i>	<i>5.9</i>

...: Not available. RE: Revised Estimates; BE: Budget Estimates

Source : Budget Documents of Central and State Governments.

No. 47: Financial Accommodation Availed by State Governments under various Facilities

(₹ Crore)

Sr. No	State/Union Territory	During February-2020					
		Special Drawing Facility (SDF)		Ways and Means Advances (WMA)		Overdraft (OD)	
		Average amount availed	Number of days availed	Average amount availed	Number of days availed	Average amount availed	Number of days availed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1	Andhra Pradesh	1490	26	871	19	73	3
2	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Assam	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	Bihar	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	Goa	94	5	-	-	-	-
7	Gujarat	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Haryana	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	546	26	76	4
11	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	Karnataka	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	Kerala	312	26	796	22	1017	8
14	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	Maharashtra	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	Manipur	81	24	120	14	46	6
17	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	Mizoram	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	Nagaland	420	29	124	6	-	-
20	Odisha	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	Puducherry	-	-	-	-	-	-
22	Punjab	225	14	621	12	131	5
23	Rajasthan	-	-	-	-	-	-
24	Tamil Nadu	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	Telangana	1282	23	-	-	-	-
26	Tripura	-	-	-	-	-	-
27	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-
28	Uttarakhand	564	29	215	9	-	-
29	West Bengal	792	13	-	-	-	-

Source: Reserve Bank of India.

No. 48: Investments by State Governments

(₹ Crore)

Sr. No	State/Union Territory	As on end of February 2020			
		Consolidated Sinking Fund (CSF)	Guarantee Redemption Fund (GRF)	Government Securities	Auction Treasury Bills (ATBs)
	1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	7973	784	--	-
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1300	1	--	-
3	Assam	4233	50	--	1000
4	Bihar	7618	--	--	-
5	Chhattisgarh	4253	--	1	5500
6	Goa	572	288	--	-
7	Gujarat	13122	462	--	-
8	Haryana	2004	1153	--	-
9	Himachal Pradesh	--	--	--	-
10	Jammu & Kashmir	--	--	--	-
11	Jharkhand	--	--	--	-
12	Karnataka	4064	--	--	7500
13	Kerala	2065	--	--	-
14	Madhya Pradesh	--	882	--	-
15	Maharashtra	39544	413	--	-
16	Manipur	364	96	--	-
17	Meghalaya	640	29	9	-
18	Mizoram	530	38	--	-
19	Nagaland	1575	32	--	-
20	Odisha	12872	1398	81	23670
21	Puducherry	281	--	--	900
22	Punjab	232	--	8	-
23	Rajasthan	--	--	129	1800
24	Tamil Nadu	6379	--	40	8632
25	Telangana	5454	1188	--	-
26	Tripura	317	5	--	-
27	Uttar Pradesh	--	--	180	-
28	Uttarakhand	3029	76	--	-
29	West Bengal	10616	512	214	-
	Total	129037	7407	661	49002

No. 49: Market Borrowings of State Governments

(₹ Crore)

Sr. No.	State	2017-18		2018-19		2019-20						Total amount raised, so far in 2019-20	
		Gross Amount Raised	Net Amount Raised	Gross Amount Raised	Net Amount Raised	December		January		February		Gross	Net
						Gross Amount Raised	Net Amount Raised	Gross Amount Raised	Net Amount Raised	Gross Amount Raised	Net Amount Raised		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1	Andhra Pradesh	22800	18922	30200	23824	513	222	5000	4708	3928	3345	37895	29730
2	Arunachal Pradesh	888	703	719	693	-	-	-	-79	87	87	559	480
3	Assam	7760	6797	10595	8089	1900	1900	1500	1500	1000	-910	10100	8190
4	Bihar	10000	8908	14300	10903	-	-607	4000	4000	1959	1959	20601	17601
5	Chhattisgarh	8100	8100	12900	12900	2000	2000	2000	2000	-	-	6000	5300
6	Goa	1800	1400	2350	1850	300	200	381	381	175	175	2256	1756
7	Gujarat	24000	15785	36971	27457	2500	1500	8000	6500	2500	1700	33400	23100
8	Haryana	16640	15840	21265	17970	2000	1000	2500	2500	1500	1100	20501	17201
9	Himachal Pradesh	4600	2551	4210	2108	-	-900	1500	1200	1500	1500	5000	3800
10	Jammu & Kashmir	6200	3974	6684	4927	309	309	600	600	600	57	6192	5110
11	Jharkhand	6000	4807	5509	4023	500	500	-	-	1000	1000	3000	1156
12	Karnataka	22098	17348	39600	31383	7700	7700	7000	7000	6000	6000	42100	37350
13	Kerala	20500	16203	19500	14784	-	-500	920	920	1000	-480	16602	11146
14	Madhya Pradesh	15000	13125	20496	14971	2000	440	3000	1447	3000	3000	15000	10327
15	Maharashtra	45000	36480	20869	3117	3000	3000	6000	5000	11998	9498	43498	29998
16	Manipur	525	278	970	667	-	-	-	-	400	86	1203	700
17	Meghalaya	1116	920	1122	863	295	295	-	-50	150	150	895	621
18	Mizoram	424	277	0	-123	92	92	-	-	90	90	540	439
19	Nagaland	1135	766	822	355	250	150	-	-	150	22	800	223
20	Odisha	8438	8438	5500	4500	-	-	500	500	1000	1000	5500	5500
21	Puducherry	825	488	825	475	200	-300	100	100	100	100	800	300
22	Punjab	17470	13349	22115	17053	2035	1570	2800	2600	1300	1300	23955	15070
23	Rajasthan	24914	16777	33178	20186	1000	-	3750	2750	2500	2326	32582	22326
24	Sikkim	995	745	1088	795	-	-	142	142	-	-188	593	405
25	Tamil Nadu	40965	36023	43125	32278	8000	6000	8000	6000	5500	5500	58890	47690
26	Telangana	24600	21828	26740	22183	1324	1116	3000	2792	2000	1583	28124	22289
27	Tripura	1137	1137	1543	1387	-	-100	400	400	470	370	2550	2200
28	Uttar Pradesh	41600	37178	46000	33307	5500	3922	7500	7500	7750	4679	49750	34819
29	Uttarakhand	6660	5830	6300	5289	750	750	-	-	750	750	3100	2500
30	West Bengal	36911	25304	42828	30431	5000	4000	6000	6000	7250	6450	46260	30150
	Grand Total	419100	340281	478323	348643	47168	34258	74593	66411	65657	52250	518246	387478

- : Nil.

Source : Reserve Bank of India.

Explanatory Notes to the Current Statistics

Table No. 1

- 1.2& 6: Annual data are average of months.
 3.5 & 3.7: Relate to ratios of increments over financial year so far.
 4.1 to 4.4, 4.8,4.9 &5: Relate to the last friday of the month/financial year.
 4.5, 4.6 & 4.7: Relate to five major banks on the last Friday of the month/financial year.
 4.10 to 4.12: Relate to the last auction day of the month/financial year.
 4.13: Relate to last day of the month/ financial year
 7.1&7.2: Relate to Foreign trade in US Dollar.

Table No. 2

- 2.1.2: Include paid-up capital, reserve fund and Long-Term Operations Funds.
 2.2.2: Include cash, fixed deposits and short-term securities/bonds, e.g., issued by IIFC (UK).

Table No. 4

Maturity-wise position of outstanding forward contracts is available at <http://nsdp.rbi.org.in> under "Reserves Template".

Table No. 5

Special refinance facility to Others, i.e. to the EXIM Bank, is closed since March 31, 2013.

Table No. 6

For scheduled banks, March-end data pertain to the last reporting Friday.
 2.2: Exclude balances held in IMF Account No.1, RBI employees' provident fund, pension fund, gratuity and superannuation fund.

Table Nos. 7 & 11

3.1 in Table 7 and 2.4 in Table 11: Include foreign currency denominated bonds issued by IIFC (UK).

Table No. 8

NM₂ and NM₃ do not include FCNR (B) deposits.
 2.4: Consist of paid-up capital and reserves.
 2.5: includes other demand and time liabilities of the banking system.

Table No. 9

Financial institutions comprise EXIM Bank, SIDBI, NABARD and NHB.
 L₁ and L₂ are compiled monthly and L₃ quarterly.
 Wherever data are not available, the last available data have been repeated.

Table No. 13

Data against column Nos. (1), (2) & (3) are Final (including RRBs) and for column Nos. (4) & (5) data are Provisional (excluding RRBs)

Table No. 14

Data in column Nos. (4) & (8) are Provisional.

Table No. 15 & 16

Data are provisional and relate to select 41 scheduled commercial banks, accounting for about 90 per cent of total non-food credit extended by all scheduled commercial banks (excludes ING Vysya which has been merged with Kotak Mahindra since April 2015).

Export credit under priority sector relates to foreign banks only.

Micro & small under item 2.1 includes credit to micro & small industries in manufacturing sector.

Micro & small enterprises under item 5.2 includes credit to micro & small enterprises in manufacturing as well as services sector.

Priority Sector is as per old definition and does not conform to FIDD Circular FIDD.CO.Plan.BC.54/04.09.01/2014-15 dated April 23, 2015.

Table No. 17

2.1.1: Exclude reserve fund maintained by co-operative societies with State Co-operative Banks

2.1.2: Exclude borrowings from RBI, SBI, IDBI, NABARD, notified banks and State Governments.

4: Include borrowings from IDBI and NABARD.

Table No. 24

Primary Dealers (PDs) include banks undertaking PD business.

Table No. 30

Exclude private placement and offer for sale.

1: Exclude bonus shares.

2: Include cumulative convertible preference shares and equi-preference shares.

Table No. 32

Exclude investment in foreign currency denominated bonds issued by IIFC (UK), SDRs transferred by Government of India to RBI and foreign currency received under SAARC SWAP arrangement. Foreign currency assets in US dollar take into account appreciation/depreciation of non-US currencies (such as Euro, Sterling, Yen and Australian Dollar) held in reserves. Foreign exchange holdings are converted into rupees at rupee-US dollar RBI holding rates.

Table No. 34

1.1.1.1.2 & 1.1.1.1.4: Estimates.

1.1.1.2: Estimates for latest months.

'Other capital' pertains to debt transactions between parent and subsidiaries/branches of FDI enterprises.

Data may not tally with the BoP data due to lag in reporting.

Table No. 35

1.10: Include items such as subscription to journals, maintenance of investment abroad, student loan repayments and credit card payments.

Table No. 36

Increase in indices indicates appreciation of rupee and vice versa. For 6-Currency index, base year 2016-17 is a moving one, which gets updated every year. REER figures are based on Consumer Price Index (combined). Methodological details are available in December 2005 and April 2014 issues of the Bulletin.

Table No. 37

Based on applications for ECB/Foreign Currency Convertible Bonds (FCCBs) which have been allotted loan registration number during the period.

Table Nos. 38, 39, 40 & 41

Explanatory notes on these tables are available in December issue of RBI Bulletin, 2012.

Table No. 43

Part I-A. Settlement systems

1.1.3: Tri- party Repo under the securities segment has been operationalised from November 05, 2018.

Part I-B. Payments systems

4.1.2: 'Others' includes e-commerce transactions and digital bill payments through ATMs, etc.

4.2.2: 'Others' includes e-commerce transactions, card to card transfers and digital bill payments through ATMs, etc.

5: Available from December 2010.

5.1: includes purchase of goods and services and fund transfer through wallets.

5.2.2: includes usage of PPI Cards for online transactions and other transactions.

6.1: Pertain to three grids – Mumbai, New Delhi and Chennai.

6.2: 'Others' comprises of Non-MICR transactions which pertains to clearing houses managed by 21 banks.

Part II-A. Other payment channels

1: Mobile Payments –

- Include transactions done through mobile apps of banks and UPI apps.
- The data from July 2017 includes only individual payments and corporate payments initiated, processed, and authorised using mobile device. Other corporate payments which are not initiated, processed, and authorised using mobile device are excluded.

2: Internet Payments – includes only e-commerce transactions through 'netbanking' and any financial transaction using internet banking website of the bank.

Part II-B. ATMs

3.3 and 4.2: only relates to transactions using bank issued PPIs.

Part III. Payment systems infrastructure

3: Includes ATMs deployed by Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) and White Label ATM Operators (WLAOs). WLAs are included from April 2014 onwards.

Table No. 45

(-): represents nil or negligible

The revised table format since June 2016, incorporates the ownership pattern of State Governments Securities and Treasury Bills along with the Central Government Securities.

State Government Securities include special bonds issued under Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY) scheme. Bank PDs are clubbed under Commercial Banks. However, they form very small fraction of total outstanding securities.

The category 'Others' comprises State Governments, Pension Funds, PSUs, Trusts, HUF/Individuals etc.

Table No. 46

GDP data is based on 2011-12 base. GDP data from 2018-19 pertains to the Provisional Estimates of National Income released by Central Statistics Office on 31st May 2019. GDP for 2019-20 is from Union Budget 2019-20. Data for 2017-18 onwards also includes NCT of Delhi and Puducherry.

Total receipts and total expenditure exclude National Calamity Contingency Fund expenditure.

1 & 2: Data are net of repayments of the Central Government (including repayments to the NSSF) and State Governments.

1.3: Represents compensation and assignments by States to local bodies and Panchayati Raj institutions.

2: Data are net of variation in cash balances of the Central and State Governments and includes borrowing receipts of the Central and State Governments.

3A.1.1: Data as per RBI records.

3B.1.1: Includes borrowings through dated securities.

3B.1.2: Represent net investment in Central and State Governments' special securities by the National Small Savings Fund (NSSF).

3B.1.6: Include Ways and Means Advances by the Centre to the State Governments.

3B.1.7: Include Treasury Bills, loans from financial institutions, insurance and pension funds, remittances, cash balance investment account.

Table No. 47

SDF is availed by State Governments against the collateral of Consolidated Sinking Fund (CSF), Guarantee Redemption Fund (GRF) & Auction Treasury Bills (ATBs) balances and other investments in government securities.

WMA is advance by Reserve Bank of India to State Governments for meeting temporary cash mismatches.

OD is advanced to State Governments beyond their WMA limits.

Average amount Availed is the total accommodation (SDF/WMA/OD) availed divided by number of days for which accommodation was extended during the month.

- : Nil.

Table No. 48

CSF and GRF are reserve funds maintained by some State Governments with the Reserve Bank of India.

ATBs include Treasury bills of 91 days, 182 days and 364 days invested by State Governments in the primary market.

--: Not Applicable (not a member of the scheme).

The concepts and methodologies for Current Statistics are available in Comprehensive Guide for Current Statistics of the RBI Monthly Bulletin (<https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/PublicationsView.aspx?id=17618>)

Time series data of 'Current Statistics' is available at <https://dbie.rbi.org.in>.

Detailed explanatory notes are available in the relevant press releases issued by RBI and other publications/releases of the Bank such as **Handbook of Statistics on the Indian Economy**.

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12. Perspectives on Central Banking Governors Speak (1935-2010) Platinum Jubilee	₹1400 per copy (over the counter)	US\$ 50 per copy (inclusive of air mail courier charges)

Notes

- Many of the above publications are available at the RBI website (www.rbi.org.in).
 - Time Series data are available at the Database on Indian Economy (<http://dbie.rbi.org.in>).
 - The Reserve Bank of India History 1935-1997 (4 Volumes). Challenges to Central Banking in the Context of Financial Crisis and the Regional Economy of India: Growth and Finance are available at leading book stores in India.
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