

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1918
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.03.2025

DELAY IN RELEASE OF KEY ECONOMIC DATA

1918. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there have been delays in the release of key economic indicators such as GDP growth, employment data, and inflation statistics;
- (b) if so, the reasons for such delays;
- (c) whether independent experts have raised concerns about alleged data manipulation and lack of transparency; and
- (d) the measures taken to ensure that official statistics remain credible and are released in a timely manner?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) & (b): Estimate of key macroeconomic data, such as GDP growth, employment data, and inflation statistics are released as per Advance Release Calendar (ARC), available on the website of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation(MoSPI).

(c): No Sir. These estimates are compiled as per internationally recommended set of definitions, classifications and accounting rules. The methodology documents for compilation of these indicators are published on the ministry website for the users of the data. These indicators/estimates are used by Central Ministries/Departments, International agencies, independent experts etc. as the official data source.

(d): Standardization of data structure to promote harmonized quality reporting across National Statistical System and use of administrative data are the key steps taken by the Government to streamline the data collection and dissemination as per ARC. The macroeconomic data are derived using credible data sources and adopting prescribed standards, these are documented and placed on Ministry's website. Moreover, regular dialogues with data users/stakeholders are also conducted in order to incorporate their feedback and enhance their understanding about the data being published by MoSPI. In addition to this, MoSPI places a strong emphasis on transparency and credibility. To ensure the same, the e-Sankhyiki portal of MoSPI provides a comprehensive system for managing and sharing data, facilitating the easy dissemination of official statistics across the country, with an aim to provide timely and valuable data inputs for policymakers, researchers and the general public.
