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Macro-Economic Framework Statement Medium Term Fiscal Policy Statement Fiscal Policy Strategy Statement

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MACRO-ECONOMIC FRAMEWORK STATEMENT

OVERVIEW OF THE ECONOMY

The Indian economy, after a strong rebound in 2003-04 from the drought-induced decline in 2002-03, appears to have settled on a steady and high growth path in recent years. A pick-up in investment, strong industrial performance, and modest inflation in spite of the high and volatile oil prices have helped not only growth but also the associated business sentiments. While growth itself, through buoyant revenues, has contributed to the fiscal consolidation process, the logic for such consolidation has been reinforced by the absence of any need for augmenting aggregate demand, particularly with rapid import growth leading to a widening of the current account deficit.

- 2. The initial momentum to this new phase of expansion was provided by agriculture in 2003-04. After a somewhat subdued performance in 2004-05, in 2005-06, with a change in the rainfall pattern from erratic to a near-normal distribution, there is a moderate recovery in agricultural growth. In contrast to the sharp fluctuations in agriculture, industry and services have continued to expand steadily. Indeed, since the beginning of the Tenth Plan in 2002-03, with annual growth of 7.0 per cent or more, industry and services have acted as the twin engines propelling overall growth of the economy. Stock market index returns of 11 per cent in 2004 followed by 36 per cent in 2005 provide a good measure of investor sentiments. Robust growth of the industrial sector and Government's conscious decision to increase credit to the agriculture sector led to rapid increases in bank credit.
- 3. Sharp increases in international oil prices from late 2003, combined with considerable volatility, posed considerable challenge to macroeconomic stability. Average headline world price of Indian basket of crude petroleum increased by 44.5 per cent, from US\$37.3 per barrel in April-November 2004 to US\$53.9 per barrel in April-November 2005, and was US\$58.10 per barrel on February 13, 2005. Nevertheless, the virtuous expansion in the current phase of economic upturn has been maintained without an undue escalation of domestic prices. In India, inflation, measured by a point-to-point increase in the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) declined from 5.7 per cent on April 2, 2005, to a low of 3.3 per cent on August 27, 2005. Despite increasing thereafter, prices have remained at comfortable levels with the WPI-inflation at 4.0 per cent on February 11, 2006 vis-a-vis 5.1 per cent on February 12, 2005. Growth in broad money (M3) at 12.2 per cent at end-March 2005 was lower than both the 14.0 per cent projected by the RBI in its Annual Policy Statement for 2004-05 and 16.7 per cent observed at end-March 2004.
- 4. As per the latest information available in February 2006, total foodgrains production is projected to increase by 2.3 per cent from 204.6 MT in 2004-05 to 209.3 MT in 2005-06. Since the decline in output, particularly that of coarse cereals, in drought-affected 2004-05, the recovery to the record output of 2003-04 remains incomplete. The pick up in industrial output observed since the second quarter of 2003-04 has continued. As per the index of industrial production (IIP), during the period April-December 2005, growth was 7.8 per cent compared to a growth of 8.6 per cent in the corresponding period of 2004.
- 5. Notwithstanding the dominance of non-debt creating flows in the capital account, the importance of debt flows appears to have increased with the emergence of a current account deficit since 2004-05. Both external assistance and external commercial

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borrowings, which were net outflows during 2002-03 and 2003-04, became net inflows of US\$1.9 billion and US\$5.0 billion, respectively, during 2004-05. These flows continued to be positive in the first half of the current year.

GDP GROWTH

- 6. Growth of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at constant prices in excess of 8.0 per cent has been achieved by the economy in only five years of recorded history, and two out of these five are in the last three years. According to the national income data released by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) on February 7, 2006, the advance estimate (AE) for growth of GDP at factor cost at constant (1999-2000) prices in 2005-06 at 8.1 per cent was up 0.6 percentage points over the 7.5 per cent growth recorded in 2004-05. The CSO has changed the base year for calculation of national income aggregates at constant prices from 1993-94 to 1999-2000.
- 7. After an acceleration of growth of industrial GDP at factor cost at constant 1999-2000 prices from 7.0 per cent in 2002-03 to 7.6 per cent and 8.6 per cent in the next two years, the industrial resurgence is manifest in the projected step up in its growth to 9.0 per cent in the current year. In the current year, industrial growth is driven by robust performances from manufacturing and construction sectors. Services sector growth continued to be broad-based. Among the three sub-sectors of services, 'trade, hotels, transport and communication services' continue to lead by growing at double-digit rates for the third successive year.

EXTERNAL SECTOR

- 8. India's merchandise exports (in US dollar terms and customs basis) have been recording annual growth rates of more than 20 per cent since 2002-03. In 2004-05, such exports grew by 26.2 per cent the highest annual growth rate in the last three decades to cross US\$80 billion. Despite recording a somewhat lower rate of growth of 18.9 per cent, exports during April-January 2005-06 have already reached \$74.9 billion and are well on their way to achieve the US\$92 billion target set for 2005-06. In 2004-05, merchandise imports (in US dollar terms and customs basis) had grown by 39.7 per cent the highest growth in two and a half decades. On a decelerating mode in the current year, such imports grew by 26.7 per cent during April-January 2005-06. The increase in imports has been driven, inter alia, by the sharp rise in global crude prices with petroleum, oil and lubricants (POL) imports increasing by 46.9 per cent in April-January 2005-06.
- 9. In a marked departure from the trend observed in recent years, the pace of accretion to foreign exchange reserves has slowed sharply during the current year so far. Following accretion of US\$28.5 billion during 2004-05, in the current year until February 10, 2006, there was a reduction of US\$1.1 billion from the end-March 2005 level of US\$141.5 billion of foreign exchange reserves. Three key factors were instrumental behind this turnaround: an outgo of US\$7.1 billion on redemption of India Millennium Deposits; valuation losses from a weakened dollar vis-à-vis other major currencies; and a widening deficit in the current account of the balance of payments (BOP).
- 10. During 2004-05, the Rupee had appreciated against the US dollar (2.2 per cent) in nominal terms, while depreciating against the Euro (-4.5 per cent), Pound (-6.3 per cent), and the Japanese Yen (-2.6 per cent). However, in the first ten months of 2005-06, on average, the Rupee has strengthened against all major currencies. The appreciation was the strongest vis-à-vis the Japanese Yen (6.4 per cent) followed by Pound (4.5 per cent), the Euro (4.3 per cent), and the US dollar (2.1 per cent). During April-September 2005-06, the current account deficit enlarged to around US\$13.0 billion, which was more than twice the deficit (US\$5.4 billion) in the whole of 2004-05. While net invisibles

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continued to rise, it was not enough to neutralize the rapidly expanding trade deficit, which at US\$31.6 billion during April-September 2005-06 was only around US\$5.0 billion less than that recorded in twelve months of 2004-05.

MONEY, BANKING AND CAPITAL MARKETS

- 11. Strong industrial recovery was accompanied by much higher credit growth of 17.4 per cent to industry (medium and large) in 2004-05 compared to only 5.1 per cent in the previous year. During 2005-06, at end-October 2005, the year-on-year growth (over end-October 2004) of credit to industry (medium and large) accelerated further by 45.7 per cent. Non-food credit by Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) expanded by Rs. 2,21,802 crore in 2004-05, substantially up from the increase of Rs. 1,25,088 crore in 2003-04. During the period (ending on January 20, 2006) of 2005-06, non-food credit expanded further by Rs.2,66,857 crore, up 25.2 per cent from Rs. 1,68,188 crore in the corresponding period of the previous year. Much of the net domestic credit expansion in 2004-05 was from growth in bank credit to the commercial sector (22.8 per cent) while net bank credit to government increased by only 0.4 per cent. Asset quality of banks registered significant improvements simultaneously with the rapid increase in the quantum of credit to the commercial sector. The robust industrial performance and wider options available to SCBs for recovery of their dues showed up in a significant reduction in the level of non-performing assets.
- 12. In terms of annual average growth, the historic trend of M3 growing at a marginally higher rate than GDP at current prices appears to have continued in the recent past. Growth in all the three components of M3 - currency with the public, demand deposits and time deposits with banks - was lower at end-March 2005 (13.0 per cent, 9.8 per cent and 12.4 per cent, respectively) than at end-March 2004 (16.0 per cent, 30.1 per cent and 14.7 per cent, respectively). The deceleration in money supply growth observed in 2004-05 appears to have been reversed in the current year. In the current financial year up to January 20, 2006, the three main components of M3 - currency with the public, demand deposits and time deposits with banks - grew by 13.5 per cent, 17.7 per cent and 12.5 per cent, respectively, which were significantly higher than the growth observed during the same period of the previous year. The velocity of money came down from 1.48 in 2003-04 to 1.47 in 2004-05, and is likely to have gone down further. Growth in reserve money (M0) decelerated from 18.3 per cent during 2003-04 to 12.1 per cent during 2004-05 reflecting a deceleration in the growth of the main source of M0, namely net foreign exchange assets of the RBI, from 35.2 per cent at end-March 2004 to 26.5 per cent at end-March 2005. During the current financial year, a considerable slow down in reserve inflows through the external balance of payments has been observed and consequently the outstanding balances under Market Stabilisation Scheme, which reflect the RBI's efforts to sterilise excessive and disorderly reserve inflows, after rising from Rs. 64,211 crore at end-March 2005 to Rs. 78,908 crore in September 2005, fell to Rs. 34,852 crore on February 3, 2006. Money markets during 2005-06 have been largely marked by comfortable liquidity conditions, with average daily call money rates generally anchored to the reverse repo rate till October 2005. The average weighted call money rate was 5.01 per cent during April-October 2005. During the current financial year so far reverse repo rate has been revised upward by 25 basis points on three occasions in April 2005, October 2005 and further in January 2006.
- 13. The BSE Sensex crossed the 10,000 mark on February 6, 2006. In 2005, Rs. 30,325 crore of resources were raised on the primary market for equity. The number of initial public offerings per year, on the rise since 2002, increased from 26 to 55 between 2004 and 2005. At the end of calendar 2005, the market capitalisation of Nifty at Rs.13.5 lakh crore and the Nifty Junior at Rs.2.2 lakh crore, added up to Rs.15.7 lakh crore or roughly two-thirds of the broad Indian equity market (2,540 companies with Rs.24.7 lakh

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crore of market value). This implies that the available index funds now cover two-thirds of the Indian equity market.

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT FINANCES

14. With the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act in place since 2003-04, the fiscal deficit as a proportion of GDP declined from 5.9 per cent in 2002-03 to 4.1 per cent of GDP in 2004-05 (Prov). This was also accompanied by a commensurate decline in the revenue deficit from 4.4 per cent in 2002-03 to 2.5 per cent in 2004-05 (Prov), leading to a marked improvement in the quality of deficit, which is indicated by the proportion of revenue deficit to fiscal deficit. The revenue and fiscal deficit in 2005-06 (RE), as proportions of GDP, are 2.6 per cent and 4.1 per cent, respectively. Indications are that the slower progress in fiscal consolidation at the Centre in the current year may be made up by faster progress on this front by the State Governments and result in an overall improvement in the financial health of the General Government, that is the Centre and the States combined. As a proportion of GDP, outstanding liabilities of the Central Government (including external debt at historical exchange rate) declined from 55.3 per cent in 1990-91 to reach 49.4 per cent in 1996-97, reflecting the lower fiscal deficit in the intervening years. This trend got reversed subsequently and outstanding liabilities as a proportion of GDP rose to 63.9% per cent in 2004-05 (Prov) and are likely to decline marginally to 62.2% per cent in 2005-06(RE).

15. As per the data on Central Government finances published by the Controller General of Accounts, for the period April-December 2005, gross tax revenue was placed at Rs.2,30,839 crore and total expenditure at Rs.3,32,499 crore. The actual growth rates recorded in the period April-December 2005 in customs and service tax were above the rates assumed in the budget. The growth in excise, corporate income tax and personal income tax were lower at 9 per cent, 22 per cent and 15 per cent, respectively. In a welcome sign of improved expenditure management, 66 per cent of plan expenditure budgeted were spent by December 2005, indicating a growth of 16.5 per cent. Non-plan expenditure grew by only 6.7 per cent up to December, 2005. While some down-side risks of not achieving BE under revenue receipts remain, with scope for some expenditure compression through tight financial discipline, the fiscal and revenue deficits budgeted can be met.

PROSPECTS

16. The encouraging signs of a pick up in investment and acceleration in growth indicate brighter prospects for the medium term. A virtuous cycle of growth and savings, that appears to be already underway, is likely to continue for some years to come. As the large gap between investment rate in India and that in East Asian countries during their take-off stage gets bridged, Indian economy should start posting growth rates close to the rates observed then in the East Asian countries. While the worry about rapidly growing imports and the burgeoning current account deficit appears to be somewhat misplaced, the possible risks to an otherwise rosy outlook arise from: inflation; interest rate; and fiscal stance. The slew of policy initiatives proposed in this Budget will minimize these risks, furthering the prospects of accelerating growth with macroeconomic stability in the medium term.

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µÉE.°	àÉn	ÉÉÉ®(ÉFÉ àÉɪÉ +É ÉĕÉ-ÉĤ°ÉÆÉ®		ÉÉÉɶÉIÉ {ÉÉPÉÉÉÉÉ +É ÉĕÉ-ÉĤ°ÉÆ®	
		2004-05	2005-06	2004-05	2005-06
	TɰiÉÉÉBÉ FÉ j É				
1.	BÉEÉ®BÉE				
	(BÉE) ´ÉiÉ∯ÉÉXÉ àÉBÁ°ÉÉà{É®	2843.9 i É.	3200.6 +É.	11.8i É.+É	. 12.5 +É
	(JÉ) 1999-2000 BÉEä à É b á a ÉÉ à {É®	2393.7 i É.	2586.6 +É.	7.5i´£.+É	. 8.1 +É
2.	+ÉÉÉTÉÉBDÉBÉE =i{ÉÉnxÉ BÉEÉ °ÉGÉBÉEÉBEE (1)	199.8	215.4	8.6	7.8
3.	létbet àthat °ébététhet (+étvét® 1993-94=100)(2)	188.3	196.4	5.1	4.3
4.	={É£ÉÉBÉDÉÉ àÉBÁPÉ °ÉBÉBÉEÉBÉE (1982=100)(3)	521	550	3.8	5.6
5.	àÉIÞÉ (ÉIÐIÉ (AàÉ3) (cVÉÉ® BÉE®ÉN⁄2 âó(ÉA)	2146.0	2529.3	13.2	17.9
		(2142.5) \$		(13.0) \$	
6.	´ÉİÉ∯ÉÉXÉ ÀÉÐͰÉÉÀ{É® +ÉɰÉÉIÉ**				
	(BÉE) BÉE®É№ âó(ÉA àÉâ	342791	425667	33.8	24.2
	(JÉ) ÉBÉÉBÉ ^a éxé +ÉàÉ®É b ÉEÉÒbÉãÉ® àÉà	75627	96238	36.3	27.3
7.	ÉLÉGÉÉKÉ ÁLÁMÁLA (E® ÉRÉMÉGÉK**				
	(BÉE) BÉE®É№ âó(ÉA àÉâ	255115	293829	24.4	15.2
	(JÉ) ÉBÉÉBɤÉxÉ +ÉàÉ®ÉBÉEÖbÉãÉ® àÉà	56285	66431	26.7	18.1
8.	BªÉE{ÉÉ® PÉÉ]É (ÉBÉÉBɪÉxÉ +ÉàÉ®ÉBÉEÉÓ DÉãÉ® àÉ)**	-19343	-29807	75.0	54.2
9.	ÉÉÉN¶EÉÒàÉIÐÉ {ÉÉÉ®ºÉà{ÉÉKɪÉÉÆ				
	(BÉE) BÉE®É№ âó(ÉA àÉã	545466	590497	22.5	8.3
	(JÉ) ÉBÉÉBɪÉxÉ +ÉàÉ®ÉBÉEÉÓ bÉãÉ® àÉå	125164	13018	28.2	4.7
10.	SÉÉAÉÚÁÉÁJÉÉ °ÉAEÁÉXÉ (ÉBÉÉBÉAÉXÉ +ÉAÉ®ÉDEEÚDÉÁÉ® AÉA	-485 @	-12956 @		
oĘ® p É	EÉ®ÉDÉÉÉKÉ ##	(BÉE®ÉB½ â¢(ÉA)			
1.	œ{vé° É ÉÉÉ(iɪÉÉÆ	188493	216746	10.5	15.0
2.	BÉE® ®ÉV̰ É (ÉŘÉ ÉãÉ)	141246	168715	18.9	19.4
3.	BÉE®-ÉÉÉXXÉ ®ÉVɰ É	47247	48031	-8.7	1.7
4.	{ÉMPTÉDÉTÉ ÉÉÉÎ(TɪÉÉA(5+6+7)	138298	115753	-5.1	-16.3
5.	jÉ@nÉEå BÉEEĎ ´É^ÉMÁÉEĎ `	45153	7408	-12.8	-83.6
6.	+ÉxªÉ ÉÉÉĞIɪÉÉÆ	2906	11	88.7	-99.6
7.	=vÉE® +ÉÉP +ÉxªÉ n ä ÉnÉÉPªÉÉÆ	90239	108334	-2.4	20.1
8.	BÉBÃÉ ÉÉÉ(TɰÉÉÆ(1+4)	326791	332499	3.3	1.7
9.	+ÉÉ ^a ÉÉ <mark>b</mark> VÉxÉÉ-É L ÉXXÉ B ^a É ^a É	245567	237904	2.5	-3.1
10.	®ÉVɰ É āÉÐÍÉ	198208	221552	1.9	11.8
	EIVE °EàEà °E à				
	¤ªÉEVÉ ÉÉ DÉ IÉEXÉ	79885	80972	1.7	1.4
	{É M ÉÉÒJÉÉ JÉÉ	47359	16352	5.0	-65.5
	+ÉɰÉÉVÉXÉÉ B°É°É	81224	94595	5.9	16.5
	°ÉVɰ Í JÍÍÍÍÍ	53254	74875	8.6	40.6
	ENCEDETE JEETE	27970	19720	1.2	-29.5
	BÉBÁÉ BªÉªÉ (9+13)	326791	332499	3.3	1.7
	@EVEO E Batat (10+14)	251462	296427	3.3	17.9
	{ EWEEOBOEOEOEOOEOEOOEOOEOOEOOEOOOOOOOOOOOOO	75329	36072	3.5	-52.1
	@EVE° E PEE] E (17-1)	62969	79681	-13.7	26.5
	@EVEBEEEKEEDE PEE] E {16-(1+5+6)}	90239	108334	-2.4	20.1
21	ÉÉ®ÉBÉÉBÉE PÉÉ]É (20-11)	10354	27362	-25.2	164.3

+É.+É. - +ÉÉDÉÀÉ +ÉXÉÖÉÉXÉ

i É.+É.- i ÉÉÉPIÉ +ÉXÉÖÉÉXÉ

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- 1. +ÉÉVÉÉ® 1993-94=100
- 2. Éĥ°ÉÆ® BÉEä+ÉÆ àÉà (ÉÆÉnÖn® ÉÆÉnÖ
- 3. Éĥ°ÉÆ® BÉEã +ÉÆ àÉà (ÉÆÍnÖn® ÉÆÍnÖ
- ## àÉctātajté tiktatytete, batat téteténé, étéké àtytétátat utet atletetéséit +étheteszá
- \$ +EEMELYa23 EH°EME®, 2005 °Ea°EMEMETE CE ĀEPEDBEEN-BEEFAAFAHA MEA +EEMELYEFAAFA11 +EBEDEER®, 2004 °EANE®-EEBEENE BEEMEXEED
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- @ +ÉTÉBÉ +É|ɪÉ-ÉPÉIÉAÉ® °Éä °ÉAÉBÉIÉ CĚ

MACROECONOMIC FRAMEWORK STATEMENT (ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE AT A GLANCE)

SI.	ltem		lute value		Percentage change April-December	
No		April -	December	April-De		
		2004-05	2005-06	2004-05	2005-06	
	Real Sector					
1	GDP at factor cost(Rs.thousand crore)*					
	a) at current prices	2843.9	3200.6 A	11.8 Q	12.5 A	
	b) at 1999-2000 prices	2393.7	2586.6 A	7.5 Q	8.1 A	
2	Index of industrial production (1)	199.8	215.4	8.6	7.8	
3	Wholesale price index (Base 1993-94=100)(2)	188.3	196.4	5.1	4.3	
4	Consumer price index (1982=100)(3)	521	550	3.8	5.6	
5	Money Supply (M3)(Rs. thousand crore)	2146.0	2529.3	13.2	17.9	
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	(2142.5)	\$	(13.0) \$		
6	Imports at current prices **	(-, -,		(/ +		
	a) In Rs. crore	342791	425667	33.8	24.2	
	b) In US \$ million	75627	96238	36.3	27.3	
7	Exports at current prices**					
•	a) In Rs. crore	255115	293829	24.4	15.2	
	b) In US \$ million	56285	66431	26.7	18.1	
8	Trade Deficit(in US\$ million)**	-19343	-29807	75.0	54.2	
9	Foreign currency assets	10040	20001	70.0	04.2	
J	a) In Rs. crore	545466	590497	22.5	8.3	
	b) In US \$ million	125164	13018	28.2	4.7	
10	Current Account Balance (In US\$million)		- 12956 @		7.7	
	Government Finances ##	(Rs. crore)				
1	Revenue receipts	188493	216746	10.5	15.0	
2	Tax revenue (Net)	141246	168715	18.9	19.4	
3	Non-tax revenue	47247	48031	-8.7	1.7	
4	Capital receipts (5+6+7)	138298	115753	-5.1	-16.3	
5	Recovery of loans	45153	7408	-12.8	-83.6	
6	Other receipts	2906	11	88.7	-99.6	
7	Borrowings and other liabilities	90239	108334	-2.4	20.1	
8	Total receipts (1+4)	326791	332499	3.3	1.7	
9	Non-Plan expenditure	245567	237904	2.5	-3.1	
10	Revenue Account Of which:	198208	221552	1.9	11.8	
11	Interest payments	79885	80972	1.7	1.4	
12	Capital Account	47359	16352	5.0	-65.5	
13	Plan expenditure	81224	94595	5.9	16.5	
14	Revenue Account	53254	74875	8.6	40.6	
15	Capital Account	27970	19720	1.2	-29.5	
16	Total expenditure (9+13)	326791	332499	3.3	1.7	
17	Revenue expenditure (10+14)	251462	296427	3.3	17.9	
18	Capital expenditure (12+15)	75329	36072	3.5	-52.1	
19	Revenue deficit (17-1)	62969	79681	-13.7	26.5	
20	Fiscal deficit {16-(1+5+6)}	90239	108334	-2.4	20.1	
21	Primary deficit (20-11)	10354	27362	-25.2	164.3	

A-Advance estimates

Q-Quick estimates

^{*} Relates to full year.

⁽¹⁾ Base:1993-94=100

⁽²⁾ End of December (Point to point)

⁽³⁾ End of December(Point to point)

^{##} Figures as reported by Controller General of Accounts, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance.

^{\$} Data relates to December 23, 2005. Figures in parenthesis exclude the impact of conversion of a non-banking entity into a banking entity from Oct.11, 2004.

^{**} On Customs basis.

[@] Period relates to April-September.