The National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) has scaled up India's economic growth projection to 7.6 per cent for 2015-16, from the earlier 7.4 per cent. It pegged the growth marginally higher at 7.7 per cent for 2016-17, due to a pickup in the agriculture sector on the back of expected normal monsoon.

"NCAER's annual model for gross domestic product (GDP), at 2011-12 prices, estimates GDP growth rate at 7.6 per cent for 2015-2016 and forecasts it at 7.7 per cent for 2016-17," the council said in its latest quarterly review. In its previous quarterly review, it had projected the economy to grow by 7.4 per cent in 2014-15. Its new projections are in line with the government expectations for 2015-16. The data would be released by this month end.

The Indian Meteorological Department has predicted monsoon for 2016-17 at 106 per cent of the long period average (LPA). However, in the industrial sector, the manufacturing sector, after showing robust growth in the second quarter, has slowed down consistently in the third and fourth quarter. The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) recorded a 2.4 per cent rise in 2015-16, against 2.8 per cent in 2014-15. In the fourth quarter, IIP manufacturing was in a "recession" (-1.1 per cent) and the overall IIP grew by 0.2 per cent on a y-o-y basis. In the fourth quarter, capital goods contracted by 15.4 per cent and consumer non-durables by 3.9 per cent on a y-o-y basis.