

Business confidence improved in Q4: NCAER

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NEW DELHI: The business confidence in last quarter of 2013-14 improved further on expectations of a new electoral mandate that influenced the overall sentiments, economic think-tank [NCAER](#) said today.

The [BCI](#) in March quarter rose by about 3.8 per cent from the previous quarter to 127 points, NCAER data showed.

"The expectations of a new electoral mandate may have influenced the overall sentiments besides some macroeconomic and sectoral level improvements in the recent quarter," [National Council of Applied Economic Research \(NCAER\)](#) said in a release.

The latest round of the quarterly business expectations survey carried out in March 2014 reflects a second successive improvement in business sentiments.

However, upturn in growth remained elusive, there was a positive news on moderating [inflation](#) rate, lower [current account](#) deficit, rupee rate and stock prices, it said.

The improvement was not uniform, it said, three-fourth components of BCI showed a higher level of optimism.

"While expectations of improved financial position is the main factor behind the increase in overall confidence, the lower ratings on investment climate remain the area of concern in the present survey."

In line with the BCI, the [Political Confidence Index \(PCI\)](#) also showed improvement in the present round of the survey from 112.9 points in January 2014 to 136.6 points in April 2014, it said.

The survey was based on a sample of 495 respondents which was conducted ahead of the [Lok Sabha election](#) in April.



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