

Dr. M. M. Das:
 Shri Sezhiyan:
 Shri Kolla Venkalah:
 Shri Vishram Prasad:
 Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:
 Shri Daljit Singh:
 Shri Ramapathi Rao:
 Shri C. M. Kedaria:
 Shri Vasudevan Nair:
 Shri Warrior:
 Shri Basumatari:
 Shri Priya Gupta:
 Shrimati Maimoona Sultan:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the D.A. Commission headed by the Ex-Chief Justice Shri Gajendragadkar has submitted its report about the Dearness Allowance payable to the Central Government employees;

(b) if so, its main recommendations; and

(c) Government's decisions in the light of these recommendations?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shri L. N. Mishra):

(a) Yes, Sir. The Commission on Dearness Allowance has submitted its report on the question of the adequacy of the Dearness Allowance granted from 1st December, 1965 to Central Government employees drawing pay below Rs. 400 and on the rates of Dearness Allowance to be granted to the employees with effect from 1st August 1966, the 12 monthly average of Working Class Consumer Price Index Number having reached 175 in July, 1966.

(b) The main recommendations of the Commission are as under:

- (i) dearness allowance be paid to the employees at the percentages of neutralization specified by the Das Independent Body in regard to the four categories of pay ranges, viz., 70—109, 110—149, 150—209 and 210—399 respectively, with effect from 1st December 1965 for the entire rise of

65 points over 100 in the 12 monthly average of the Working Class Consumer Price Index Number;

- (ii) the adequacy of the rates of dearness allowance payable to the employees, for the period prior to 1st December, 1965 should not be reopened; and

- (iii) the average of Working Class Consumer Price Index Number having reached the level of 175 in July, 1966, for the entire rise of 75 points, dearness allowance be paid at the percentages of neutralisation specified by the Das Independent Body to the categories of staff in pay ranges below 400 with effect from 1st August, 1966.

(c) Government have accepted the above recommendations in full. They have further decided to revise the rates of Dearness Allowance admissible to employees drawing pay of Rs. 400 and above but below Rs. 1000. Orders in this regard have been issued on 19th October, 1966.

Foreign Exchange Reserves

*81. Shri Shree Narayan Das:
 Shri Yashpal Singh:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position with regard to India's reserve of foreign exchange;

(b) whether there has been any substantial increase in export earnings since after devaluation;

(c) whether any assessment has been made as to the impact of devaluation on exports and imports; and

(d) if so, the result of such assessment?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri): (a) The latest figures published by the Reserve Bank of India show India's foreign exchange reserves including gold as Rs. 428.19