

STATEMENT*Exchange Rate of the Rupee*(Monthly Averages)
(Rupees per foreign currency)

Sl. No.	Currencies	March 1993	March 1994	Appreciation (+)/ Depreciation (-) (per cent)
1.	Pound Sterling	45.9520	46.7971	- 1.81
2.	Deutsche Mark	19.1156	18.5319	3.15
3.	Swiss Franc	20.7457	21.9351	- 5.42
4.	French Franc	5.6395	5.4419	3.63
5.	Italian Lira	0.0198	0.0158	5.32
6.	Japanese Yen	0.2695	0.2984	- 9.68
7.	Malaysian Ringgit	12.0825	11.5640	4.48
8.	Indonesian Rupiah	0.0153	0.0146	4.79
9.	Thailand Baht	1.2418	1.2410	0.06
10.	Hongkong Dollar	4.0752	4.0602	0.37
11.	Pakistan	1.1983	1.0338 *	15.9
12.	People's Republic of China	5.5111	3.6041 *	52.9

* For February 1994.

Tea Growers

*395. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR
SHARMA:
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE
be pleased to state:

(a) whether small tea growers are
facing problems in the country;

(b) whether the Government have
set up a High Power Committee to look
into their problems;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the
time by which it will submit its report; and

(d) the steps being taken by the
Government to improve the financial
condition of the Tea Trading Corporation
of India and ensure timely disbursement
of salary to the workers of tea gardens
under T.T.C.I, particularly in Assam and
other States of North Eastern region?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE
(SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Dur-
ing 1994, prices of teas at major auction
centres in India including Cochin and
Coonoor have shown a declining trend
due to very low support from export
buyers particularly Russia and CIS coun-
tries. Tea growers apprehend that this
would adversely affect tea industry es-
pecially in South India which has a large

concentration of small growers. There are no other significant problems facing the Small Tea Growers.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) There have been marginal delays in disbursement of salary to the workers of tea gardens owned by Tea Trading Corporation. Tea Trading Corporation of India Ltd. is responsible for running day-to-day affairs of the tea gardens owned by it. The Corporation has been advised to tone up working of its Gardens Division so as to generate sufficient resources to meet its expenses.

Financial Assistance by LIC

*396. SHRIMATI BHAVNA
CHIKHLIA:
SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided by the Life Insurance Corporation of

India for various schemes during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of the schemes for which the Life Insurance Corporation of India propose to provide financial assistance during the current financial year; and

(c) the amount earmarked for the purpose; State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The requisite information is given in *Statements-I, II and III.*

(b) and (c). LIC makes investments in State Government and other Government Guaranteed Marketable Securities and renders loan assistance to Socially Oriented Sectors, e.g. State Housing Apex Cooperatives, State Electricity Boards, State Road Transport Corporations, Municipalities, Zila Parishads etc. The amount under the various schemes to be allocated during the current financial year is yet to be finalised by the LIC in consultation with the Planning Commission.

STATEMENT-I

Investments made during 1991-92

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	State Govt. & Other Guaranteed Marketable Securities	Housing	Water Supply/ Sewerage	State Electricity Boards	State Road Transport Corpsns.	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	52.25	40.54	3.12	31.03	4.54	131.58
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.50	—	—	—	—	1.50