

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) In terms of an agreement entered into between State bank of India (SBI) and Banco Nacional Ultramarino (BNU), Lisbon, sealed packets containing the 'security' for gold loans was repatriated to India in August, 1991.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No interest for the period for which the gold/jewellery remained with BNU, Lisbon has been paid by BNU to the borrowers.

(d) and (e). The Goans had taken gold loans from the then branches of BNU in Goa against the security of gold ornaments. In all such cases, the interest is payable by the borrowers and not by the bank.

[English]

Deductions Made by Coffee Board

2937. SHRI C. P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the deductions made by the Coffee Board from coffee growers for marketing expenses such as cost of storing, curing, marketing and also statutory taxes and duties are much higher than all other such boards in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to minimise such deductions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). The actual marketing expenses of coffee are deducted from

the total sales realisation before making payments to the coffee growers for the value of the coffee delivered by them. The marketing expenses are around 5 percent of the total realisations. Such centralised marketing is not done by the Tea, Rubber or Spices Board.

(c) The steps being taken to minimise marketing expenses include identification and phasing out surplus staff, stoppage of new recruitment, surrendering of telephones etc.

Import of Newsprint

2938. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to double the import of newsprint to meet the country's demand;

(b) whether any concrete proposals in this regard have been prepared for the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the main points of the proposed plan; and

(d) the quantity of newsprint imported during 1990-91 and proposed to be imported during the next three years.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

(d) The quantity of newsprint imported during 1990-91 and 1991-92 along with the names of the countries of import are given below:-

<i>Financial Year</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Qty. in 1000 Mt Names of the Countries</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1990-91	226	China, Canada, GDR, Romania, Sweden, Yugoslavia, New Zealand, Finland, USSR, Norway, Bangladesh, USA, Poland, South Korea
1991-92 (Prov.)	215	China, New Zealand, Japan, Canada, Poland, France, Germany, Hungary, Sweden, Finland, USSR, Bangladesh, Austria

Future estimation for import of newsprint has not been made.

[*Translation*]

Assets of Industrial Houses

2939. SHRI RAM TAHAL CH-
 OUDHARY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made by the Governments to prevent concentration of wealth in the hands of a few industrial houses;

(b) the value of the asses of the twelve industrial-houses three years ago and the present value thereof, year-wise;

(c) whether the asses of industrial houses have increased inspite of MRTP Act; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) The objective of Government policy is not to prevent concentration of wealth per se but to prevent such

concentration of economic power as operates to the *common detriment*. Before the recent amendments all large industrial houses were required to clear their projects by seeking prior approval for expansion of capacity and setting up fresh capacity. However, even under the previous system exemptions were provided to the large houses from seeking government approval for certain priority industries. The intention of the government was not to prevent industrial growth but to prevent abuse of economic power to the common detriment. For this purpose, the policy focus has shifted to regulation and control of monopolistic and restrictive trade practices. Section 27 of the MRTP Act also empowers government to order division of undertakings if it is found that the working of these undertakings is prejudicial to public interest.

(b) A statement showing assets in 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 (latest available) of the companies registered under section 26 of the MRTP Act and belonging to the top 12 industrial houses ranked according to their assets in 1989-90 (Accounting year ending in April, 1989- March, 1990) is enclosed.