

Effects of Currency Fluctuation on Foreign Aid

1755. SHRIMATIKISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether currency fluctuation has created a surplus in the aid given by the World Bank and the other donor countries;

(b) if so, whether Government are negotiating with donors for utilising it in new projects; and

(c) if so, the details of the projects in which the surplus is proposed to be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Donor assistance, including assistance from the World bank, is committed in specific currencies. This commitment, in the respective currencies of denomination, does not change with currency fluctuations and the question of a surplus in the currencies of denomination would not therefore arise.

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

Export Subsidies

1756. SHRIMATIKISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have plans to reduce and gradually give up export subsidies;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to supply raw materials to Indian exporters at international prices; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R.

DAS MUNSI): (a) to (c). In order to compensate for certain disadvantages inherent in the Indian economy, compensation in the form of cash Compensatory Support, Duty drawback, International Price Reimbursement in respect of certain raw materials etc. are extended to exporters on selective basis, under various schemes which are received from time to time

Recruitment of Bank Clerks and Officers

1757. SHRIMATIKISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to reform recruiting policies for bank clerks and officers in favour of obtaining the services of more people from rural areas, willing to work in remote villages;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government expects banks to obtain adequate number of bank officials interested in working in rural areas under current recruitment policies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). Under the existing recruitment system, eligible candidates irrespective of their urban/rural background are considered for recruitment into the clerical/officers' cadres in the public sector banks. Government have, however, issued guidelines making rural service as a pre-condition for promotion from JMG Scale-I to MMG Scale-II and from MMG Scale-II to MMG Scale-III.

Permission to Journalists to bring Electronic Typewriters from Abroad

1758. SHRIMATIKISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: