

products in the international market. The downward adjustment in the exchange rate of Rupee effected in early July 1991 was expected to raise the landed cost of imported raw materials and components.

(b) to (d) The supplies to the Government are made on the basis of contracts entered into by the Government and the Domestic Supplier and decisions on request for price escalation whenever received by the contracting departments are taken based on the terms and conditions contained in the individual contracts.

Demands of Small Savings Agents

5010 SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have received any memorandum from the All India Mahila Pradhan and Small Savings Agents Confederation,

(b) if so, the details of their demands, and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government to each of these demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Yes Sir

(b) and (c) The demands of the Agents Federation for increasing the rate of commission to small savings agents, issue of identity slips to holders of National Savings Certificates VIII Issue and introduction of new schemes have not been agreed to. As regards the demand for quick settlement of commission claims of agents, necessary instructions have been issued in this regard.

[Translation]

Import of Foodgrains

5011 SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH
SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) the countries from which foodgrains were imported during the last year and the quantity thereof, and

(b) the countries from which foodgrains are proposed to be imported during the current year along with the quantity and the mode of payment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) During 1990-91 a quantity of 0.45 lakh MT of rice was imported from Vietnam as repayment of commodity loan. No import of wheat was undertaken during 1990-91.

(b) No wheat and rice has been imported during 1991-92 so far. However, it has been decided to import one million tonnes of wheat during 1992 with a view to increase its availability and to contain the market prices, but no contracts have been finalised so far.

Per Capita Tax Revenue Collection

5012 SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the per capita tax collected during the last three years State wise,

(b) whether the per capita tax collected in Bihar is higher than other States, and

(c) if so, the efforts, if any, made by the Union Government to reduce the per capita tax burden in Bihar?