[Translation]

Value of Rupee

752. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL:
SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA:
SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA:
SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the present internal value of rupee treating 1947 as a base year;
- (b) the present exchange value of rupee in comparison to major foreign currencies; and

(c) the impact of downward trend of value of rupee in relation to major foreign currencies on the country's trade, economy and balance of payment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The internal value of the rupee as determined by the reciprocal of the consumer price index for industrial workers treating 1947 as the base year has been 5.98 Paise in September, 1992.

(b) The average exchange value of the rupee vis-a-vis selected major currencies for the month of October, 1992 has been as follows:-

Currency	Official Rate	Market Rate*	
US Dollar	25.8900	30.0471	
Pound Sterling	42.8616	49.8933	
Deutsche Mark	17.4242	20.2505	
Japanese Yen	0.2136	0.2481	
French Franc	5.1352	5.9597	

^{*} FEDAI indicative rate.

(c) The depreciation of the rupee enhances external competitiveness of the country which in turn encourages exports, import-substitution and invisible earnings and thereby improves the balance of payments. This is advantageous for an economy with a deficit in the balance of payments.

[English]

Distress Sale of Jute

753. SHRIMATI GEETA
MUKHERJEE:
SHRI K. PRADHANI:
SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS:

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: DR. ASIM BALA: SHRISUBRATAMUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the small and marginal jute grower are facing great difficulty in selling their produce at support price resulting in mounting of unsold stock;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; State-wise;
 - (c) whether the Union Government are