

*Purchasing Power of Rupee*

1992-93	41.67 paise
1993-94	38.76 "
1994-95	35.21 "

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). The purchasing power of the rupee declines as the index of consumer prices rises. Some of the important steps taken to moderate the rise in the prices are:

1. Continuation of FCI's open market sale of rice and wheat through 1995-96 to check market price. By October, 1995 10.30 lakh tonnes of rice and 17.39 lakh tonnes of wheat had been sold.

2. Allowing import of edible oils (except coconut oil) under OGL at a reduced duty of 30%.

3. Importing 1.5 lakh tonnes of palmolein at concessional duty of 20% for supply through PDS.

4. Continuing OGL import policy for sugar and allowing import of 2 lakh tonnes for augmenting PDS stocks.

5. Increased allocation of levy sugar for PDS effective August, 1995.

6. Pulses import under OGL with duty reduced to 5%.

7. Adjustment in trade and tariff policies in the Budget for current year to ensure that domestic prices of industrial products remain competitive.

8. Substantial reduction in excise duties on a number of items is expected to accelerate the pace of industrial revival and raise industrial growth.

9. Reduction of fiscal deficit in the budget proposals for current financial year to 5.5 per cent of GDP as against 6.7 per cent in the last financial year.

10. Placing a cap on Central Government's borrowings from the RBI through the issue of ad-hoc Treasury Bills and containing monetary growth through a series of measures including raising of CRR and sale of Government securities by the RBI.

Strengthening of public distribution system and supplementing supplies if necessary by imports would be given top priority. Large foreign exchange reserves would enable the Government to arrange imports, if needed, to check any rise in the prices of some of the essential commodities.

[English]

**Amendment in Registration Act, 1908.**

946. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1631 dated 24.3.95 and state :

(a) whether the views/comments of the State Governments/Union Territories administration regarding Section 28 and 30 (2) of the Registration Act, 1908 has since been received; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b) . The views/comments of 7 State Governments/Union territory Administrations on the proposal for the amendment/deletion of sub section (2) of section 30 of the Registration Act, 1908 have since been received. The comments/ views of 25 State Governments/Union territory Administrations are still awaited. A decision on the proposal would be taken by the Government as soon as the views/comments of all the State Governments/Union territory Administrations are received.

**Child Labour**

947. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV :

SHRI N. DENNIS :

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL :

SHRI PAWAN DIWAN :

SHRI KUNJEE LAL :

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI :

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of child labourers in the country as per 1991 census State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(b) how does it compare with 1981 census;

(c) the steps taken by the Government during the last three years to tackle the problem of child labour;

(d) the details of the schemes prepared to rehabilitate the child labourers and also to eliminate child labour; and

(e) the funds earmarked for the purpose, State and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) . As per the 1981 census, the child labour population of the country was 13.65 million. The National Sample Survey, 43rd Round, 1987 put it at 17.02 million. The 1991 census data is yet to be released.

(c) Important steps taken by the Government for elimination of child labour are as under :-

(i) Organisation of a Workshop for Collectors from the most child labour endemic districts in the country.

(ii) Assistance of Rs. 6.65 crores to 133 districts in the country for awareness generation.

(iii) Assistance to 123 districts to carry out surveys to identify child labour engaged in hazardous occupations.

(iv) Meeting with Labour Ministers of 17 States on 2nd September, 1994 to discuss the elimination of child labour.

(v) Constitution of National Authority on Elimination of Child Labour on 26th September, 1994 under the Chairmanship of Union Labour Minister.

(vi) A detailed Circular on "Identification, Release and Rehabilitation of Child Labour" was sent to all State Governments under the signature of Prime Minister.

(vii) Consultation with State Labour Ministers in the Eastern, Southern, Western and Northern regions regarding Modalities of Implementation of the child labour elimination Programme.

(viii) Re-Constitution of the Child Labour Advisory Board under the Chairmanship of Union Labour Minister.

(d) The National Child Labour Policy, 1987 envisages three action plans to rehabilitate child labour : (i) a legislative action plan; (ii) focusing of general development programmes for benefiting children wherever possible; and (iii) project-based action plan in areas of high concentration of child labour, engaged in wage/quasi-wage employment. A major activity undertaken under the National Child Labour Projects is establishment of special schools to provide basic needs like non-formal education, vocational training, supplementary nutrition, stipends etc., to the children withdrawn from employment. Voluntary agencies are also being financially assisted to the extent of 75% for taking up welfare projects for working children under the Grants-in-Aid Scheme.

At present 75 National Child Labour Projects are under implementation in 11 States covering around 1,36,00 children.

(c) During the current financial year, there is a budget provision of Rs. 34.40 crores for programmes relating to elimination of child labour. State-wise allocation of funds are not made and the funds are released directly to the District Project Societies implementing National Child Labour Projects.

#### Bonus to Textiles Workers

948. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI :

Will the Minister of State for TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to pay bonus to textile workers of the public sector undertakings as reported in the "Hindustan Times" dated October 17, 1995; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) to (b).