

1	2	3	4	5
9. Orissa		30.00	28.00	26.44
10. West Bengal		33.00	30.85	25.92
11. Gujarat		6.40	5.30	5.64
12. Maharashtra		54.00	42.34	42.82
13. Tripura		1.82	1.50	1.36
14. Assam		2.00	4.50	4.00
15. Rajasthan		1.68	2.00	2.00
<b>Total :</b>		<b>360.00</b>	<b>356.77</b>	<b>332.52</b>

#### Reissue of one Rupee Currency Notes

2874. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :  
SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have started to re-issue of one rupee currency notes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reason for its discontinuance of printing in the past ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The printing of Re. 1 notes was never discontinued. The question of re-issuing one-rupee currency notes does not therefore arise.

#### Alleged Violation of Fera by Non-resident Indian Businessmen

2875. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :  
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether non-resident Indian businessmen have been violating the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act; and

(b) if so, the particulars of the non-resident Indian businessmen and the action Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). There are a few cases of non-resident Indian businessmen who have perhaps violated the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act. The details of these cases cannot be disclosed in public interest. However, Government will take appropriate action under the provisions of the law.

#### Guide Principles in Starting Construction Organisations

2876. SHRI K. S. RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the guide principles in starting construction Organisations like Hindustan Steel works Construction Ltd. (HSCL), National Projects Construction Corporation (NPCC), Bridge and Roof, etc. when many of these are causing heavy losses to the Government; and

(b) whether it is not superfluous to allow these Corporations to undertake works with Government Corporations like NTPC, NHPC, etc. which is resulting extra expenditure to Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Hindustan Steelworks Construction Ltd. (HSCL) was incorporated in June, 1964 with the objective

of creating in the public sector an organisation capable of undertaking complete construction of modern integrated steel plants from the stage of site investigation to the stage of commissioning. National Projects Construction Corporation (NPCC) was incorporated in January, 1975 with the objective of undertaking construction work including fabrication of structures, erection and installation of equipment, etc. relating to dams, tunnels, barrages, bridges, irrigation projects, hydro-electric projects and thermal power projects. Bridge and Roof Co. India Ltd. (B and R) is a company taken over from the private sector. It was incorporated in 1920. Consequent upon Balmer Lawrie, the erstwhile Holding Company of B and R, becoming a subsidiary of Indo-Burma Petroleum Co., a Government Company, in 1972, B and R also become a Government Company. B and R ceased to be a subsidiary of Balmer Lawrie with effect from 1-12-78.

The objectives of setting up construction companies in the public sector are, briefly :

- to develop the necessary capabilities and capacities to undertake large and complex construction works relating to projects of national importance;
- to develop and become the repositories of expertise in specialised fields of construction;
- to generate pools of specialised equipment and man power relating to specialised fields of activities;
- to be pace-setters in the country in matters relating to construction costs, quality standards, performance norms, employment policies and professional ethics;
- to undertake works in difficult and inhospitable areas where private construction organisations generally do not wish to operate except at prohibitive rates;
- to undertake works of a classified nature; and
- to build up the requisite capabilities and capacities to undertake turn-key projects comprising planning, design and execution including supervision,

monitoring and control in the allied fields of specialisation;

It is a fact that some of the public sector construction companies are showing losses. This is due to reasons like over-manning, cash liquidity problems, particularly in foreign projects, dwindling order book position and time and cost over-runs due to delayed completion of projects. The companies concerned are looking into these problems with a view to coming up with solutions as to how best they can be overcome and their profitability can be increased.

(b) The Hon. Member is presumably referring to the extra expenditure on account of the 1% price preference which public sector construction companies are entitled to get from public sector clients. Investments in the public sector, including public sector construction companies, are made on overall grounds of public policy. Government are interested in ensuring that the capacities so created are utilised to the fullest possible extent. With this end in view, Government have decided on the present policy of extending 10% price preference to public sector undertakings subject to quality requirements and delivery schedules being met. The question, therefore, does not arise.

#### Loan to Agriculturists

2877. SHRI S. G. GHOLAP : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Maharashtra has asked permission to give loan to the agriculturists at the rate of 6 per cent and subsidise extra interest above 6 per cent;

(b) if so, the progress in the matter; and

(c) when it is likely to be given ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The Government of Maharashtra had submitted a scheme for providing loans to small farmers at a subsidised rate of six per cent.

(b) and (c). The proposal was examined in consultation with RBI. The RBI is not in favour of making any deviation in the interest rate structure. The Government has also not concurred with the proposed scheme.