

Confirmation of Key Punching Operators in Directorate of Excise and Customs

613, SHRI T. S. NEGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of the Key Punching Operators in the Directorate of Excise and Customs who have passed the departmental typing test;

(b) is it a fact that one of the conditions for their confirmation is passing of the said typing test; and

(c) what steps are being taken to confirm the operators who have passed the typing test?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA). (a)
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(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The cases of eligible candidates for confirmation will be considered as and when permanent posts become available

Export Duty on Turmeric and Ginger

614 SHRIMATI SANYOGITA RANE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the export duty on turmeric and ginger is causing serious hardship to the cultivators;

(b) whether Government propose to remove export duty and provide incentives to the farmers in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) to (c). Turmeric has been exempted with effect from 14th November, 1980

from the whole of the export duty leviable thereon. And ginger, is not one of the articles specified in the Second Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975; as such it is not liable to export duty.

Appreciation of value of rupee in terms of the dollar

615 SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether a number of Indian Exporters have approached the Government to evolve a mechanism for protecting them against the steady fall in the value of the US dollar and artificial appreciation of the rupee in terms of the dollar;

(b) whether it is a fact that since the basket system was adopted for valuation of the rupee in September, 1975, the rupee has appreciated by as much as 15.32 per cent in terms of the US dollar;

(c) whether the appreciation in terms of the US dollar has been to the disadvantage of the India exporters since the US dollar happened to be the major export invoicing currency; and

(d) if so, whether Government are considering all these facts and considering to take suitable measures in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a), Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The appreciation in the value of rupee *vis-a-vis* the US Dollar was to the extent of 15.32 per cent as on 7-8-1980. The appreciation was to the extent of 14.38 per cent as on 10-11-1980 when the last revision in the rupee-sterling exchange rate was made.

(c) While the appreciation of Indian rupee in terms of US dollar would be to the disadvantage of In-