

(b) if so, details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) to (c). At the recent meeting of Indo-French committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation held in New Delhi on 1-4 October, 1982, the question of India's adverse balance of trade with France was taken up. The French side felt that our exports were likely to increase in view of the renewal of the Multi Fibre Arrangement and the efforts of the French authorities to have a French Buyers' Mission organised in the near future.

The talks have helped to understand each others concerns and problems and have created an atmosphere of goodwill for improving trade and economic relations between the two countries. As for improvements in trade prospects, it may be mentioned that France's external commercial relations are governed by EEC regulations but the French willingness to send a purchase mission and consider other measures will no doubt help to improve these.

रुपये का डालर की तुलना में
अधमूल्यन

4150. श्री फुल चन्द वर्मा :

श्रीमति किशोरी सिन्हा :

डा० सुब्रह्मण्यम स्वामी :

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हाल ही में भारतीय रुपये का डालर की तुलना में अधमूल्यन किया गया है;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस सम्बन्ध में विस्तृत सूचना क्या है;

(ग) क्या इस अधमूल्यन के परिणामस्वरूप देश को आर्थिक हानि हुई है या होगा; और

(घ) यदि हाँ, तो इसके कारण तत्काल किस सीमा तक हानि होगी ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री प्रकाश मुखर्जी) :
(क) और (ख). पहली जनवरी, 1982 और 25 अक्टूबर, 1982 को अमेरिकी डालरों और विभिन्न करेंसियों की तुलना में भारतीय रुपये का मूल्य इस प्रकार था:—

निम्नलिखित तारोखों को इन करेंसियों के बराबर रुपया राशि
पहली जनवरी, 1982 25 अक्टूबर, 1982

विदेशी करेंसी

पौण्ड स्टलिंग	17,35	16,40
अमेरिकी डालर	9,1194	9,7636
ड्यूश मार्क	4,0723	3,8184
येन	0,0416	0,0352
फ्रांसीसी फ्रांक	1,6050	1,3552
स्वीडिश फ्रांक	5,0949	4,4444

रुपये की विनिमय दर का निर्धारण उन देशों की करेंसियों की उपयुक्त रूप से भारत डाली के आधार पर किया जाता है जो भारत के व्यापार में प्रमुख भागीदार हैं रुपया तथा विभिन्न अन्य करेंसियों के बीच विनिमय दरें इन करेंसियों के मूल्य में होने वाली घट-बढ़ के अनुसार घटती-बढ़ती रहती हैं तथा सब बात तो यह है कि किसी विशेष करेंसी के सम्बन्ध में "अवमूल्यन" शब्द की कोई प्रासंगिकता नहीं है।

(ग) और (घ). यदि अमेरिकी डालर सहित अन्य करेंसियों की तुलना में रुपये की विनिमय दर में होने वाले परिवर्तन से भारत को कोई आर्थिक हानि हुई हो तो उसे अलग करना सम्भव नहीं है।

Purchasing Power of Rupee

4151. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the purchasing power of the rupee has already dipped yet another new low and touched 20 paise during July this year with 1960 as the base year; and

(b) if so, whether a further devaluation of the Rupee is under consideration?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The All-India Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers' (1960=100) moved up from 470 in June 1982 to 478 in July 1982. Correspondingly the domestic purchasing power of the rupee measured as a reciprocal of the Consumer Price Index came down from 21.28 paise in June 1982 to 20.92 paise in July 1982.

(b) No, Sir.

Production of Jute and its purchase by Jute Corporation of India

4152. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of jute produced by the jute growers during the season;

(b) the quantity jute purchased by the Jute Corporation of India from the jute growers and what was the purchase price of jute;

(c) the names of the jute mills which are still closed or locked out and the number of workers involved in each mill and what steps have been taken for the reopening of these mills;

(d) whether Government have received any suggestion from the representatives of jute workers and trade Unions to solve the crisis between jute worker and the jute mills owners; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken so far by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) The combined jute and mesta crop during the year 1982-83 Jute season is expected to be about 60/62 lakh bales.

(b) During July to October, 1982 (upto 25-10-82), JCI has purchased a total quantity of 6.62 lakh bales including 1.45 lakh bales under commercial operation. Procurement under price support operation has been made at statutory minimum price of Rs. 175 per quintal (ex-Assam) fixed by the Government of W-5 grade for 1982-83 jute season.

(c) A statement is attached.

(d) and (e). Some of the jute workers' unions have expressed concern over the continued lock-out in the jute mills. Labour being a state subject, it was not possible for the Central Govt. to intervene directly in the matter.