

Indian currency is no exception to this rule. Thus the purchasing power of the rupee as measured by the All-India Industrial Workers Consumer Price Index Number (Base 1949-100), shows a decline since 1959, except in 1969 when the value of the rupee increased slightly as compared to the preceding year. Assuming 1959 as base year the value of the rupee in May, 1974 works out at 33.9 paise.

Shifting of Office of Controller of Insurance from Simla to Delhi

785. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether there is a proposal to shift the Office of the Controller of Insurance from Simla to Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons which have led to this proposal:

(c) whether any representation has been received from the employees of the Office of the Controller of Insurance; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government on the representation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI):

(a) and (b). With the nationalisation of all insurance business, both life and general, the regulatory functions of the Controller have dwindled to a great extent. At the same time, Government's responsibility in this regard has increased necessitating fuller exercise of its discretionary powers by proper directional control over the nationalised Insurance Corporations. Against this background, it has been decided to gradually wind up the office of the Controller of Insurance and to strengthen the Department of Revenue & Insurance by taking on the technical officers in the Insurance Wing to enable proper discharge of

these directional functions of the Government. This Department will also be discharging the functions of actuarial advice to the Central and State Governments and other functions which the Controller of Insurance was earlier performing.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Every effort is being made to ensure that minimum dislocation is caused to the employees and that those among them who do not wish to move to New Delhi, are absorbed, as far as possible, in other offices at or near Simla.

Share-holders of Ex-servicemen Air-link Transport Services Private Limited

786. SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) who are the shareholders of Ex-servicemen Air-Link Transport Services Private Limited;

(b) whether any advertisement was given in the Press for such a contract at Delhi; and

(c) what are the earnings of Cam-bata per month at Bombay?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) At present all the equity shares are held by ex-servicemen and their dependents.

(b) The International Airports Authority of India awarded the contract to M/s. Ex-Servicemen Air-Link Transport Services (Pvt.) Ltd., without call of tenders as they were sponsored by the Director General of Resettlement, Ministry of Defence, with the sole purpose of providing employment to ex-servicemen. There were two other parties who came forward

with their offers but the terms offered by the above mentioned firm were the most favourable.

(c) The International Airports Authority of India do not have the figures of earnings of M/s. Cambatas from portorage services at Bombay

Mango Export

787 SHRI G Y KRISHNAN. Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries which are importing Mangoes,

(b) whether the demand for Indian Mangoes is increasing,

(c) if so the amount of foreign exchange earned yearly during last three years, and

(d) the incentives extended by Government for production of more Mangoes in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE). (a) Bahrain Island, Dubai, France, Malaysia, Muscat, Nepal, Qatar German Fed Rep, Singapore, UK, Kuwait, S Yemen, Saudi Arabia and others

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) Years	FMR value (Rs lakh)
1971-72	26 08
1972-73	50 01
1973-74	51 25
upto Jan 74)	

(d) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Package Programme on mango during 5th Plan has been approved. This has an outlay of about 75 lacs for programmes in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Shortage of Small Coins

788. SHRI G Y. KRISHNAN;

SHRI GAJADHAR MAJHI.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether there is acute shortage of small coins in the rural areas in the country;

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard, and

(c) the progress made regarding the production of coins of all denominations by the three mints at Alipore (Calcutta), Bombay and Hyderabad during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K R GANESH).

(a) No reports of shortage of small coins in the rural areas in the country have been received in recent months

(b) Does not arise

(c) The production of small coins during the years 1972-73 and 1973-74 is as under —

Denomination	No of pieces (000's omitted)	
	1972-73	1973-74
50-Paise	14,16,16	15,33,70
25-Paise	38,72,82	43,08,88
10-Paise	76,08,00	80,94,62
5-Paise	48,22,80	47,44,50
3-Paise	18,85	..
2-Paise	26,12,10	23,26,60
1-Paise	4,91,40	..