

iron ore during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the names of the countries to which it will be exported; and

(c) the estimated foreign exchange to be earned therefrom?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) to (c). The target for export of iron ore by Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation during 1975-76 has not been finalised so far.

Export of Coffee

3374. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of Coffee exported from India in the year 1974; and

(b) the percentage of our exports in comparison with world coffee exports?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) 50,400 tonnes (provisional)

(b) Around 1.58 per cent during 1973.

Value of Rupee

3375. SHRI AMARSINH CHAUDHARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rupee exchange rate in relation to Rouble fell in March, 1975 maintaining its steady decline since March, last year;

(b) if so, the reasons for its decline;

(c) what were the exchange rates during October, 1974 to February, 1975;

(d) whether the rate for Pound sterling has been raised during December, 1974 to March, 1975; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) to (c). The State Bank of the USSR has been revising the exchange rate of the Indian Rupee in relation to the Rouble for non-commercial transactions within the USSR, particularly since 1st March, 1974. The rate notified by that Bank effective from 1st March, 1975 was Rs 100=Roubles 8.66 as against the rate of Rs. 100=Roubles 9.51 notified in March, 1974. The rates announced by that Bank during the period October, 1974 to February, 1975 are as given below:—

October, 1974 Rs 100 Roubles
9.47

November, 1974 Rs. 100=Roubles
9.44

December, 1974 Rs. 100-Roubles
9.27

January, 1975 Rs. 100—Roubles
9.09

February, 1975 Rs. 100=Roubles
8.88

According to the State Bank of the USSR, the revised rate of exchange announced by it from time to time is based on the *de facto* value of the Indian Rupee in relation to the Rouble as arrived at by that Bank by averaging the cross rates of major currencies in the international market with the Indian Rupee. The matter is under discussion between the two Governments

(d) and (e). The exchange rates notified by the State Bank of the USSR for Pound Sterling during the period December, 1974 to March, 1975

are as given below:—

December, 1974	Rouble 1.66 per Pound Sterling
January, 1975	Rouble 1.66 per Pound Sterling
February, 1975	Rouble 1.60 per Pound Sterling
March, 1975	Roubles 1.62 per Pound Sterling

We are not aware of the exact reasons for these changes

Losses made up by Indian Airlines and Air India

3376. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines and Air India have started making up the losses suffered by them during the lock-out period; and

(b) whether the tourist traffic has also increased and if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Vigorous economy and productivity measures have been taken by both the Corporations to increase their earnings and their losses are expected to be reduced considerably.

(b) The figures of tourist arrivals during the last five years and the percentage increase are as under:—

Year	Tourist arrivals	Percentage of increase over the previous year
1970	280,821	14.8
1971	300,995	7.2
1972	342,950	13.9
1973	409,895	19.5
1974	423,761	3.2

Tourists visiting India

3377. SHRI NIMBALKAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government expect more tourists to visit this country in 1975-76 as compared to the previous years; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b). The figures of tourist arrivals in the two months of 1975 compared to those in 1974 are as follows:—

	January	February
1974	37,778	33,021
1975	42,661	38,000 (Estimate)

In view of the above, Government expects more tourists to visit India in 1975 as compared to the previous years.

Decline in deposits of nationalised banks

3378. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the deposits in the nationalised banks have declined since nationalisation; and

(b) the deposits with the nationalised banks during the last three years year-wise and bank-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) (a) The aggregate deposits (excluding inter-bank deposits) of public sector banks, including the fourteen nationalised banks, increased from Rs. 3885