

- (b) if so, when; and
 (c) the total expenditure thereof?

The Minister of Planning and Social Welfare (Shri Asoka Mehta): (a) to (c). The Planning Commission is not aware of any place known as Chemvannur near Calcutta located in the Rural Industries Projects sponsored by the Planning Commission. However, there is a place known as Cheruvannur near Calicut (Kozhikode) in Kerala and that is located in the Rural Industries Project of Kozhikode.

A model scheme for the manufacture of fuel briquetting from saw dust and bamboo dust has been prepared by the Rural Industries Planning Committee and supplied to the Project Officer, Rural Industries Project, Kozhikode. The Project Officer is making efforts to get a suitable party interested in this industrial activity. It is not possible at this stage to indicate as to when the unit would come up there and what would ultimately be the investment.

Exchange value of Rupee

1081. Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the present unofficial rates of exchange for the Rupee vis-a-vis dollar and pound sterling in principal markets outside the country and inside the country; and

(b) whether Government propose to lay a statement showing month-by-month fluctuations in the unofficial rates of exchange for the Rupee in terms of Dollar and Pound Sterling since June, 1966 after the devaluation of the rupee; on the Table?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri): (a) The unofficial rate of exchange for the rupee in terms of the U.S. dollar in the New York market was Rs. 10 at the end of September 1966, and the unofficial rate of exchange for the rupee

in terms of Pound Sterling was Rs. 29.85 on 19th October 1966. The unofficial rates of exchange in markets inside the country are not available.

(b) The unofficial rate of exchange for the rupee in terms of the U.S. dollar has varied between Rs. 9.75 to Rs. 10.15 in the New York market, and the unofficial rate of exchange for the rupee in terms of Pound Sterling in the London market has varied between Rs. 29.28 to Rs. 31.85 since devaluation.

Circular Railway in Calcutta

**1082. Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
 Shri H. C. Linga Reddy:
 Shri D. C. Sharma:**

Will the Minister of Planning and Social Welfare be pleased to state:

(a) the progress achieved so far in starting with the construction of the circular Railway in Calcutta;

(b) whether Government have examined the possibility of going in for subways, as in other big cities in the world; and

(c) the financial involvements thereof?

The Minister of Planning and Social Welfare (Shri Asoka Mehta): (a) and (b). Details regarding the preliminary engineering feasibility study are being finalised in consultation with the Calcutta Metropolitan Planning Organisation and the Railways.

(c) Does not arise.

Indian Embassy in Washington

1083. Shri Surendra Pal Singh: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the contract entered into on the 9th August, 1966 by the Indian Embassy in Washington with a firm of public relations consultants by the name of 'Public Relations Attaches International' has been renewed for the current financial year; and