

10,885 housing projects, involving loan amount of Rs. 8895 crores to various State Housing Agencies, Development Authorities, Cooperative Societies and NGOs/Builders. State-wise details of loans and dwellings sanctioned are given in the attached Statement.

Statement

State-wise details of Housing Projects as on 31.3.1997.

Sl. No.	States/UT's Names	Loan Amount (Rs. crore)	Total No. of dwellings	Total No. of Plots
1.	A. & N. Islands	4.18	784	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	931.21	1158069	4866
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.96	317	0
4.	Assam	139.42	57057	735
5.	Bihar	223.22	156149	9259
6.	Chandigarh	78.18	26511	8205
7.	Delhi	37.60	16292	0
8.	Goa	13.25	2786	1526
9.	Gujarat	581.53	503398	7742
10.	Himachal Pradesh	88.12	28839	1232
11.	Haryana	219.00	106422	95
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	51.08	15137	12084
13.	Kerala	894.23	758388	486
14.	Karnataka	627.86	720877	4536
15.	Meghalaya	42.28	13267	0
16.	Maharashtra	618.98	373732	18263
17.	Manipur	79.61	11034	0
18.	Madhya Pradesh	479.51	135475	88546
19.	Mizoram	25.47	7533	0
20.	Nagaland	39.40	13188	0
21.	Orissa	300.33	154833	6219
22.	Punjab	221.96	122582	4679
23.	Rajasthan	606.14	252882	16997
24.	Sikkim	47.18	12914	0
25.	Tamil nadu	1303.43	828087	128189
26.	Tripura	8.25	5011	0
27.	Uttar Pradesh	925.92	654767	54570
28.	West Bengal	293.19	146540	974
29.	D. & N. Haveli	0.25	87	0
30.	Pondichery	12.58	5525	0
Total		8895.30	6288533	369203

Pakistan's Interference in Kashmir

5026. KUNWAR SARVRAJ SINGH:
SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL :
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the statement of the President of Pakistan wherein he has declared to continue the support for terrorists in Kashmir; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and whether the Government still hopes for better relations with Pakistan and if so, the basis thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) Government have noted the statement of the Pakistani President, made while addressing the Pakistan National Day parade on 23 March, 1997.

(b) Pakistan's support to terrorism directed against India is well known.

Government hope that the recently resumed bilateral dialogue between India and Pakistan will be sustained so that the two countries can work to establish a relationship of trust, friendship and cooperation.

[Translation]

Value of Rupee

5027. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
SHRIMATI PURNIMA VERMA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether devaluation of Indian currency continuously going on in comparison to pound, dollar, German mark and Japan's yen;

(b) the present value of Indian rupee *vis-a-vis* the value in 1960;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the rate of interest to curb the devaluation of Indian rupee; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) The rupee remained reasonably stable during May 1996 to March 1997 *vis-a-vis* the US dollar. Reflecting the movement of other international currencies *vis-a-vis* the US dollar, the Indian rupee appreciated against the DM and the yen but depreciated against the Pound Sterling during the same period.

(b) The exchange rate of the Indian rupee *vis-a-vis* the US dollar on 2nd May, 1997 was Rs. 35.7550 as compared to Rs. 4.7691 in 1960.

(c) and (d) The exchange rate of the rupee is market determined. The foreign exchange market is monitored

closely by the RBI and steps are taken, as and when necessary, to counter speculative pressures against the rupee and to maintain orderly foreign exchange market conditions.

[English]

Foreign Exchange Reserve

5028. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :
SHRIMATI PURNIMA VERMA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the foreign exchange reserve has been continually decreasing for the last few years;

(b) if so, the details of decrease in this reserve during each of the last two years and month-wise details during 1997 as on April, 1997 alongwith the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve the foreign exchange reserve position ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) India's foreign exchange reserves (excluding gold and SDRs) had declined from US \$ 20809 million at end March 1995 to US \$ 15943 million at end February 1996, because of the steep rise in imports, moderation in capital inflows and a sizeable increase in servicing of external debt. However, from March 1996, foreign exchange reserves, increased continuously to reach a level of US \$ 22367 million at end March 1997 and further to US \$ 22659 million at end April 1997. The monthly trend in foreign exchange reserves (excluding gold and SDRs) from March 1995 to April 1997 is given in the Statement attached.

Statement

*The monthly trend in foreign exchange reserves
(excluding gold and SDRs)*

Month/Year	Foreign Exchange Reserves (in US \$ million)
1	2
March, 1995	20809
April, 1995	20454
May, 1995	20267
June, 1995	19601
July, 1995	19882
August, 1995	18990
September, 1995	19064
October, 1995	17753
November, 1995	17335
December, 1995	17467
January, 1996	16310
February, 1996	15943

1	2
March, 1996	17044
April, 1996	17088
May, 1996	17105
June, 1996	17526
July, 1996	17940
August, 1996	17976
September, 1996	18433
October, 1996	19177
November, 1996	19388
December, 1996	19742
January, 1997	19848
February, 1997	19695
March, 1997	22367
April, 1997*	22659

*Provisional

[Translation]

Short Denomination Notes

5029. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the details of the currency notes of the denominations of Re. one, Rs. two, Rs. five and Rs. ten printed during each of the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : The details of the currency/bank notes of the denominations of Re. 1, Rs. 2, Rs. 5 and Rs. 10 printed during each of the last three years are as under :

Denomination	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
	(figures in million)		
Re. 1	40	-	-
Rs. 2	91	-	-
Rs. 5	480	157	-
Rs. 10	2632	2571	2883
Total	3243	2728	2883

[English]

Fifth Pay Commission Report

5030. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI
CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the M/s. Bahari Brothers, (publishers and