

[Translation]

Exchange Rate of Rupee

671. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring any further change in the rupee exchange rate in future;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the time by which package trade reforms are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR):

(a) No, Sir. There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to bring any further change in the rupee exchange rate.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Implementation of package of trade reforms, as announced by Commerce Minister, on 4th July, 1991, has commenced through a series of notifications dated 4th July, 1991.

[English]

R.B.I. Survey Regarding Loan Waiver Scheme

672. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a sample survey conducted by the Reserve Bank of India of certain branches of the nationalised banks in the country has revealed exaggerated claims regarding loan waiver scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India has reported that test checks were conducted by its Regional Offices in selected branches of the public sector commercial banks in each of the districts in the country to ensure that the eligibility criteria laid down in the Agricultural & Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990 have been followed by them. RBI has further reported that a consolidated report on the test checks is under preparation.

Diamond Export

673. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in Times of India dated 6 June, 91 stating that finished diamond worth Rs. 600 crore did not find their way either to the local market or in the exported jewellery; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news item is reportedly based on a study of the Diamond Industry in Gujarat conducted by the State Joint Industries Commissioner. The details of the study have been sought from the Government of Gujarat.

Narcotics Smuggling

674. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of narcotics smuggling detected during the years 1990 and 1991 so far, state-wise;

(b) the number of persons apprehended in these cases and the number of foreigners out of them, country-wise; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check narcotics smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR):

(a) and (b) The number of cases of narcotics smuggling detected during the years 1990 and 1991 and the number of foreigners arrested, country-wise are furnished in the statement annexed.

Total number of persons arrested in these cases are as under:

1990	1991 (upto June) (Provisional)
4032	4540

(c) The Government have taken various steps such as:

- (i) enacting a new law in 1985 and further strengthening its provisions in 1989,
- (ii) creating a Central nodal enforcement agency i.e. Narcotics Control Bureau in 1986 and strengthening it in 1990,
- (iii) Improving inter-state and inter agency enforcement coordination through the N.C.B.,
- (iv) Arranging training of Customs, Police and other enforcement officers through courses organised in various training institutions,
- (v) Improving international, regional bilateral cooperation in drug enforcement by ratifying the U.N. Convention of 1988, formulating the SAARC Convention of 1990 and signing bilateral agreements with several friendly foreign countries such as U.S.A., Mauritius and Afghanistan.

Number of Cases of Narcotics smuggling detected during the year 1990 and 1991 State-wise

<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>Number of cases detected</i>	
	1990	1991 (As on 17-7-91) (Provisional)
1	2	3
1. Andhra Pradesh	42	10
2. Andaman and Nicobar Island . . . . .	..	..
3. Arunachal Pradesh	4	..
4. Assam	32	180
5. Bihar	647	330
6. Chandigarh	9	..
7. Dadra & Nagar Haveli . . . . .	..	..
8. Daman & Diu . . . . .	..	..
9. Goa	33	12
10. Delhi	383	526

1	2	3
11. Gujarat	24	11
12. Haryana	144	129
13. Himachal Pradesh	65	6
14. Jammu & Kashmir	13	11
15. Karnataka	3	2
16. Kerala	71	27
17. Lakshadweep . . . . .	..	..
18. Madhya Pradesh	49	19
19. Maharashtra	319	676
20. Manipur	45	129
21. Meghalaya	18	..
22. Mizoram	29	69
23. Nagaland	52	74
24. Orissa	4	1
25. Pondicherry . . . . .	..	..
26. Punjab	45	32
27. Rajasthan	93	39
28. Sikkim . . . . .	..	..
29. Tamil Nadu	953	1257
30. Tripura	5	..
31. Uttar Pradesh	566	1088
32. West Bengal	250	18
Total	3898	4646

Number of Foreign Nationals arrested in India in 1990 and in 1991 (up to June)

Nationality	Arrested in	
	1990	1991 (up to June)
1	2	3
Nigerian	104	20
Srilankan	13	13
Burmese	13	3
British	9	2

1	2	3
Pakistani	9	4
Afgan	5	2
German	5	3
South African	7	..
Zambian	4	..
Tanzanian	2	..
Senegalize	3	..
Ghanian	3	..
Kenyan	2	..
Bangladeshi	4	2
Spanish	2	1
Argentine	1	..
Italian	3	..
Swiss	2	1
Austrian	1	2
French	4	3
Canadian	2	..
Dutch	1	..
Nepalese	3	7
Greek . . . . .	..	2
Benin	1	..
Malian	1	..
Guinean	1	..
American	1	..
Israeli . . . . .	..	1
Togo	1	..
Thai	1	..
Ugandan	1	..
Djibutian	1	..
Gambia	3	..
Danish . . . . .	..	1
Zairean	1	1
Under Verification	20	2
Total	234	69