

- (i) Upward revision of Minimum Release Price (MRP) of coffee w.e.f. 08.03.1990.
- (ii) Reduction of the Central Excise Duty on coffee from Rs. 105/- per quintal to Rs. 50/- per quintal.
- (iii) Repayment of crop loan granted by the Coffee Board has been rescheduled and coffee growers can now repay the crop loan granted by the Coffee Board for the coffee season 1989-90 in two instalments, instead of one.
- (iv) The rate of REP licence has been increased from 4% to 10% in the new Import-Export Policy.

[*Translation*]

Foreign Exchange Admissible to People Going Abroad

*708. SHRI BHOGENDR JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign exchange allowed to people of various sections of the society at the time of their going abroad;

(b) the maximum limit prescribed for higher officers and political leaders etc. in this regard;

(c) whether with a view to save foreign exchange, Government propose to reduce these limits; and

(d) if so, the extent thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (d). Indian residents can go abroad as tourists under the two special

Travel Schemes popularly known as Foreign Travel Schemes (FTS) and Neighbourhood Travel Scheme (NTS). Under FTS, Indian residents can go abroad once in three calendar years with an exchange release of US \$ 500/- or its equivalent. Under NTS, Indian residents can undertake travel to any country in the group of neighbouring countries (viz., Bangladesh, Burma, Malaysia, Maldives Islands, Mauritius, Pakistan, Seychelles Islands, Sri Lanka and Singapore) once in three calendar years with an exchange release of US \$ 250/- or its equivalent.

2. Minor children upto the age of 12 are, however, eligible to draw exchange only at half the normal FTS/NTS quota i.e. US \$ 250/- or its equivalent in the case of FTS and US \$ 125/- or its equivalent in the case of NTS. Both FTS and NTS are mutually exclusive.

3. Members of Parliament and members of State Legislatures are also eligible to draw foreign exchange worth Rs. 27,000/- and Rs. 16,000/- respectively for undertaking private study tour abroad during one particular term.

4. For officials' tours abroad, each proposal is examined on merits and foreign exchange is released at the prescribed scales. At present, there is no proposal to introduce changes in these arrangements.

[*English*]

Aluminium Prices

*709. SHRI KARIA MUNDA:
SHRI RAJENDRA AG-
NIHOTRI:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of aluminium