

**Import of Gold**

1606. SHRI MANJAY LAL:  
SHRI Y.S. RAJASEKHAR  
REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Times of India dated 25 July, 1990 captioned "Ministries differ on gold import scheme".

(b) if so, whether any final decision has been taken regarding import of gold; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN  
THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
(SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Yes,  
Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In view of (b) above, question does not arise.

[*English*]

**Purchasing Power of Rupee**

1607. SHRI MANJAY LAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the purchasing power of Indian rupee is declining continuously;

(b) if so, the position with regard to purchasing power of rupee by the end of 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90;

(c) whether the purchasing power of rupee has further declined in the country during the past six months; and

(d) if so, the specific steps taken to stabilise the rupee and with what success?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN  
THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
(SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to  
(d). The movements in purchasing

power of the rupee defined as the reciprocal of the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (1982=100) by the end of 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 and during the months January to June, 1990 are given below:

<i>Period</i>	<i>Purchasing Power of Rupee (in paise)</i>
<i>Year end</i>	
1987-88	65.36
1988-89	60.24
1989-90	56.40
<i>Months 1990</i>	
January	57.47
February	57.14
March	56.50
April	55.56
May	54.95
June (latest available)	54.05

Government have initiated several steps to prevent erosion in purchasing power of rupee as a result of rise in prices. These include containing the budget deficit, introducing economy measures to curb Government expenditure, maintaining supplies of essential commodities through PDS and strict action against hoarders and blackmarketeers.

**Utilisation of Foreign AID**

1608. SHRI NARSINGRAO  
SURYAWANSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "unutilised foreign aid piling up fast" appearing in the Deccan Herald dated 6 April, 1990;

(b) if so, the details with reasons thereof; and