

lag in reconciliation due to unhealthy practices ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India has reported that there are considerable arrears in the reconciliation of inter-branch accounts in banks. About 729 lakhs entries (both debit and credit) involving an aggregate amount of about Rs. 440596 crores were reported to be outstanding in inter-branch accounts of public sector banks as on 30th June, 1983.

(c) and (d) Under the accounting system followed in banks, there is an inherent time lag ranging from three months to six months between dates of inter-branch transactions and their reconciliation. However, the main reasons for older entries remaining unreconciled are attributable to various factors such as delay in submission of daily schedules by branches/incorrect compilation of the schedules, non-availability of certain old records and manual reconciliation etc. Instructions have been issued to the Chief Executives of banks to make special arrangements for liquidating the arrears in a time bound programme. Banks have also been advised to make periodical reviews of the progress in reconciliation of accounts and place it before the Boards. Banks have taken corrective steps, both organisational and operational to improve the position. Reserve Bank of India has reported that some of the banks have resorted to mechanisation of the process of reconciliation work on an on-going basis and have sought the assistance of computer agencies for clearing the arrears. Special task forces have also been formed in certain banks at the Head Offices/controlling Offices with a view to expedite reconciliation work.

चाय का उत्पादन तथा उसकी कीमत में वृद्धि

93. प्रो० अजित कुमार मेहता :

श्री रवीन्द्र वर्मा :

क्या वाणिज्य मन्त्री निम्नलिखित जानकारी दर्शाने वाला विवरण सभा पटल पर रखने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि इस वर्ष पिछले वर्ष की तुलना में चाय का अधिक उत्पादन हुआ है ;

(ख) इस वर्ष तथा पिछले वर्ष चाय का अलग-अलग कितना उत्पादन हुआ ;

(ग) पिछले तीन वर्षों में चाय के मूल्यों का वर्षवार ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(घ) इस वर्ष चाय के मूल्यों में असाधारण वृद्धि के क्या कारण हैं ?

वाणिज्य मन्त्रालय में श्रीर पूर्ति विभाग में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री निहार रंजन लास्कर) :

(क) और (ख) चाय बोर्ड द्वारा संकलित किए गए आंकड़ों के अनुसार 1983 में चाय का उत्पादन 585 मि० किग्रा० होने का अनुमान है जबकि 1982 में 565.4 मि० किग्रा० हुआ था ।

(ग) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान चाय की औसत कीमतें नीचे दी गई हैं :

	औसत (रु०/किग्रा०)
1981	15.25
1982	16.82
1983	26.50

(घ) 1983 में भारत में चाय की कीमतों में विश्वव्यापी वृद्धि, पाइपलाइन स्टार्कों के समाप्त होने तथा कुछ आयातक

देशों द्वारा हमारे नीलामी केन्द्रों पर जोरदार खरीद किए जाने जैसे कारणों के फलस्वरूप बढ़ी।

#### Decline in Value of Rupee

\*94. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the value of rupee at present keeping in view 1970-71 as base year;

(b) whether it is a fact that there has been a constant declining trend in

the value of rupee, if so, the yearly figure of its decline; and

(c) the steps Government are taking to improve the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) The purchasing power of the rupee as measured by the reciprocal of All-India Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (base shifted to 1970-71=100) in December, 1983 (latest available) works out to 33.11 paise. The requisite information in respect of earlier years is as under :

Year	Purchasing power of the rupee in paise	Extent of decline (—) appreciation (+) (in paise)
	(average of 12 months)	
1971—72	96.15	— 3.85
1972—73	89.29	— 6.86
1973—74	74.07	— 15.22
1974—75	58.48	— 15.59
1975—76	59.17	+ 0.69
1976—77	61.35	+ 2.18
1977—78	57.14	— 4.21
1978—79	55.87	— 1.27
1979—80	51.28	— 4.59
1980—81	46.08	— 5.20
1981—82	40.98	— 5.10
1982—83	38.02	— 2.96
1983—84	34.01*	— 4.01

(\*9 months average)

The Government has taken a number of steps acting on both the demand and supply side to counter inflationary trends and stabilise the purchasing power of the rupee. The more important measures include, *inter alia*, strengthening of the public distribution system, larger releases of foodgrains, edible oils

and sugar, imports of essential items like rice, wheat and edible oils to augment domestic availability and mopping up of excess liquidity in the banking system. In January, 1984, the Government introduced a package of measures aimed at securing greater fiscal discipline.