

### Gold Price

1440. SHRI MOHANLAL PATEL  
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the present gold price in India and in the international market;

(b) whether there has been a sharp rise in the gold price in India recently, if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the quantity of gold exported every year in the shape of ornaments and whether it has any effect on the gold price in the country; and

(d) whether Government are considering to put some restriction on the export of gold ornaments in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJAY) : (a) on 20th March, 1985 the price of standard gold per 10 grams in the Bombay market was Rs. 2125 as against Rs. 1329 per 10 grams in the London market.

(b) to (d). Yes, there has been a sharp rise in the price of gold in India recently. Sizeable fluctuations in the gold price occur mainly because domestic supplies are small and speculative factors play an important role. The export of gold ornaments does not entail any net outflow of gold from the country since the gold used in these ornaments is imported from abroad under official schemes, such as that operated by the Handicrafts and Handloom Export Corporation. The exports of gems and jewellery are important earners of foreign exchange. There is no proposal at present under consideration by the Government to restrict the export of gold ornaments.

### Manopoly Procurement of Raw Jute

1441. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be Pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to start monopoly procurement of raw jute so that the fibre could be distributed among the mills according to their needs;

(b) if so, when and the details thereof;

(c) the steps so far taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) if no, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir,

(b) & (c). Do not arise.

(d) Monopoly procurement of raw jute will imply a lot of operational, administrative and infrastructural commitments on the part of the State Government in the form of creation and development of regulated markets on operative organisations of jute growers etc. In the absence of any decision regarding such commitments by the State Governments, it is difficult to launch any scheme for monopoly procurement of raw jute.

However, the Jute Corporation of India is there to protect the interests of jute growers. The Corporation is responsible for undertaking price support operation of raw jute and undertakes to procure the entire quantity of raw jute offered to it at minimum statutory price fixed by the Government. The Government has also accepted the liability to subsidise the losses incurred by the Corporation on price support operations of raw jute in the interests of jute growers.

With a view to bring about equitable distribution of raw jute among mills, the Government has regulated stock holdings of raw jute by mills under the Jute (Control and Licensing) Order, 1961.

### New Marketing Policy

1442. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of