

**Value of Rupee**

2663. DR. D. N. REDDY :  
SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ  
ALI KHAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the value of rupee as compared with 1960 as base;

(b) the position of rupee in relation to dollar, Pound or Rouble and other convertible currencies; and

(c) how has the rupee value fallen from 1980 to 1988 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (c). The value of the rupee measured as a reciprocal of the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers with 1960 as the base was 13.3 paise in December 1987, the latest month for which the index is available. In December 1980, the value of the rupee was 24.5 paise.

(b) The latest available monthly average exchange rate of the rupee in terms of major international currencies is given below :

Exchange Rate of Rupee in February 1988

(Rs. per unit of Foreign Currency)

U. S. Dollar	13.06
Pound Sterling	22.96
Rouble	15.86
D.M.	7.70
Yen	0.10
French France	2.28

**Setting up of Soft Drink Bottling Plant in Soviet Union**

2664. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to set up a soft drinks bottling plant in the Soviet Union on turnkey basis; and

(b) whether an agreement was signed between the Parley Group and a delegation of Gosagropom ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) and (b). Government is aware that M/s. Parle (Export) pvt. Ltd., Bombay is negotiating with M/s. Gosagropom, a Soviet organisation, for setting up a soft drinks bottling plant in the USSR on turnkey basis. In terms of the prescribed procedures governing such projects abroad, the Indian party is required to obtain the approval of the Government. No application for grant of such approval in the prescribed form has yet been received from the Indian Company.

**Incentives to Entrepreneurs in FTZ.**

2665. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a three point incentive to attract investors and entrepreneurs in free trade Zone (FTZ) has been suggested;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) to (c). Specific incentives including duty free import of capital goods and production inputs, a 5 year tax holiday, exemption from Central Excise Duty of sales tax etc. are extended to units situated in the Export Processing Zones in order to take to competitive export production. Various suggestions have also been received from time to time in order to further promote investments in the Zones. These are duly examined and implemented, if feasible. Government have recently granted a facility to units in EPZs and under the scheme of 100% Export Oriented Units to sell 25% of the production in the Domestic Tariff Area in relaxation of the import regime in order to improve their viability.