

**Devaluation of Rupee against US Dollar**

†\*29. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the value of Indian rupee had declined *vis-a-vis* US dollar during the last few months;

(b) if so, the maximum and minimum value of the Rupee *vis-a-vis* Dollar during the month of September;

(c) to what extent the value of Dollar was more than Rupee during January, 2001; and

(d) the reasons for consistent devaluation of Rupee during the last few years in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The monthly average exchange rate of the rupee per US dollar from January, 2001, to October, 2001, and the extent of appreciation/depreciation of rupee against US dollar is given below:

Month	Rs./US dollar (Period Avg.)	App./Dep. of rupee (%)
January 01	46.54	0.45
February 01	46.52	0.04
March 01	46.62	(-)0.21
April 01	46.78	(-)0.34
May 01	46.92	(-)0.30
June 01	47.00	(-)0.17
July 01	47.14	(-)0.30
August 01	47.13	0.02
Septemebr 01	47.64	(-)1.07
October 01	48.02	(-)0.79

(b) During the month of September, 2001, the exchange rate of rupee ranged between Rs. 47.13 and Rs. 48.18 *vis-a-vis* US dollar.

(c) During the month of January, 2001, the exchange rate of rupee ranged between Rs. 46.35 and Rs. 46.74 per US dollar.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(d) The movements in exchange rate are largely determined by demand and supply conditions in the foreign exchange market.

**Impact of Expenditure Reforms Commission**

\*30. SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of recommendations of the Expenditure Reforms Commission received so far which has been implemented; and

(b) what are the details of the impact of the implementation of these recommendations on the overall expenditure trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The Expenditure Reforms Commission has submitted in all ten reports covering 36 Ministries/Departments besides four specific issues—Food subsidy, Fertilizer Subsidy, Autonomous Institutions and Optimizing Staff Strength. The recommendations contained in these reports have been forwarded to the concerned Ministries/Departments for implementation and are at various stages of implementation. The impact of these recommendations on overall expenditure would be known only after these are implemented.

**Agency for procurement of natural rubber**

\*31. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:  
SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the agency fixed to purchase natural rubber at the Bench Mark price rates;

(b) by when such purchase was started and how much rubber has been purchased so far;

(c) whether Government have decided not to accept rubber variety lower than the RSS-5 grade, which forms 40 per cent of the sheet rubber; and

(d) whether Government have received any representation to review this decision and to accept rubber grade lower than the RSS-5 grade?