

	Sales (in tonnes)	Expendi- ture on Sales Rs.	Rate per tonne Rs.
1975-76	92,540	25,34,856	27.39
1976-77	1,32,169	35,95,942	27.21

Income range of a middle class family

344. SHRI K. S. MALLE GOWDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state whether Government propose to define a middle-class family in terms of income, if so, what is the range of income of a middle income group family or a middle-class family?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI FAZLUR RAHMAN): There is no proposal to define 'middle-class' or 'middle-income' generally for plan purposes. Under one plan scheme, viz., Social housing, the income range of Rs. 600/- to Rs. 1500/- per month is classified as 'middle income'.

Average per capita income

345. SHRI K. S. MALLE GOWDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what was the average per capita income in our country in each year from 1972 to 1977;

(b) what was the average per capita income of people living in the rural areas each year from 1972 to 1977; and

(c) whether the rural-urban economic gap is increasing since 1960?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI FAZLUR RAHMAN): (a) The average per capita income in India in each year from 1972 to 1977 was as under:

Year	per capita income (Rs.)	
	at current prices	at 1970-71 prices
1972-73	714	607
1973-74	875	624
1974-75	1004	618
1975-76	1020	660
1976-77	1081	656
1977-78	1163	690

(b) and (c). Separate estimates of per capita income of people living in rural areas are not available. In the absence of such data no measure of increase/decrease of rural-urban economic gap can be furnished.

Appointment of Prof. M.G.K. Menon as Chief of the Department of Science and Technology and CSIR

346. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Professor M.G.K. Menon has been appointed as Chief of the Department of Science and Technology as well as of the CSIR;

(b) if so, what is the tenure of the appointment; and

(c) what is the number of posts which he is holding as additional charges in various Government and semi-Government organisations?