

of December, 1972 and December, 1973 are set out in the annexures. [See Appendix XC, Annexure No. 49]

Investigation into issue of import licences

*430. SHRI N. G. GORAY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the recent departmental investigations into the case of issue of the licences to certain Pondicherry firms, a large number of similar cases have been detected; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Depreciation in external value of rupee

*431. SHRI B. D. BARMAN:

SHRI M. KADERSHAH:

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR:

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHA-PATRO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the "Statesman" of the 14th November 1974 to the effect that the external value of rupee has depreciated by about 19 per cent; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to restore the value of rupee?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In a world of floating exchange rates, it is not possible to establish with any precision the average external value of the currency. The bulk of India's external trade is conducted at fixed exchange rates. The external value of the rupee depends on the state of our balance of payments and Government is constantly endeavouring to strengthen it through export promotion and import substitution.

Black money unearthed

432. SHRI MONORANJAN ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total amount of black money unearthed during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): The value of assets seized as a result of searches carried out by the Income-tax authorities during the years 1971-72 to 1973-74 is as under:

Year	Value of Assets Seized (Rs. in lakhs)
1971-72	243
1972-73	454
1973-74	440

भूतपूर्व नरेशों की ओर बकाया कर की राशि

* 433. श्री जगदीश जोशी :

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही :

श्री कल्पनाथ :

श्री गुणानन्द ठाकुर :

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने प्रिवी पर्सों के उन्मूलन के पश्चात् शीर्षस्थ पच्चीस भूतपूर्व नरेशों की देश और विदेशों में सम्पत्ति का कोई आकलन किया है ;