



**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Finance**  
**Department of Economic Affairs**  
**Economic Division**  
**8(2) /Ec Dn/ 2000**

# **MONTHLY ECONOMIC REPORT**

**AUGUST, 2000**

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- The monsoon rainfall upto 9 August 2000 was normal/excess in 74 per cent of meteorological sub-divisions.
- Foodgrains stocks 42.25 million tonnes as on July 1, 2000.
- Overall industrial growth 5.4 per cent in April-June, 2000.
- Core infrastructure sectors achieved an average growth rate of 6.8 per cent in April-May, 2000 compared with 4.8 per cent in April-May, 1999.
- Money Supply (M3) growth was 4.7 per cent during March 31, 2000 to July 28, 2000, whereas annual growth rate for fortnight ended July 28, 2000 was 14.0 per cent. Net RBI Credit to Government increased by 8.6 per cent during March 31, 2000 to July 28, 2000.
- The annual inflation rate in terms of WPI (Base 1993-94) was 5.8 per cent for week ended August 5, 2000 compared to 2.9 per cent a year ago.
- Exports increased by 27.6 per cent in dollar terms in April-June, 2000 compared to an increase of 6.5 per cent in April-June, 1999. Imports increased by 27.2 per cent.
- Rupee appreciated against Deutsche Mark, French Franc, Japanese Yen and Euro and depreciated against US Dollar and Pound Sterling in July, 2000.
- Forex reserves (excluding Gold & SDRs) stood at \$33.30 billion at the end of July, 2000.

**(Manoranjan Kumar)**  
**Deputy Economic Adviser**

# AGRICULTURE

## MONSOON RAINFALL\*

	Number of Meteorological Sub-divisions						
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	1995-99+	2000
<b>Excess/Normal</b>	29	31	29	30	31	30	26
<b>Deficient/Scanty/Nil</b>	6	4	6	5	4	5	9
<b>Total</b>	35	35	35	35	35	35	35
+ Annual average	* (June-Sept.)						

The monsoon rainfall from June 1, 2000 to August 9, 2000 was normal/excess in 26 (74 per cent) meteorological sub-divisions and deficient/scanty in the remaining 9 (26 per cent). The annual average for 1995-99 was normal/excess in 30 (86 per cent) meteorological sub-divisions and deficient/scanty in the remaining 5 (14 per cent).

## PROCUREMENT\*

(Million Tonnes)

(1)	Full Marketing Year			Up to August 14		% change Col. (6)/(5)
	1997-98 (2)	1998-99 (3)	1999-2000 (4)	1999(P) (5)	2000(P) (6)	
Rice (Oct-Sep)	14.33	11.79	-	11.74	16.89	43.9
Wheat (Apr-Mar)	9.30	12.65	14.14	14.14	16.32	15.4
* Central pool						

Wheat procurement up to August 14, 2000 in the current marketing year, (i. e., 2000-2001) was higher by 15.4 per cent at 16.32 million tonnes compared to 14.14 million tonnes in the corresponding period in 1999-2000. Procurement of rice during the marketing year 1999-2000 (up to August 14, 2000) at 16.89 million tonnes was higher by 43.9 per cent than the level of 11.74 million tonnes during the corresponding period of 1998-99.

## OFF-TAKE

(Million Tonnes)

	April-June			
	1998-99	1999-2000	1999-2000	2000-01(P)
Rice	11.83	12.06	2.76	2.33
Wheat	8.90	9.86	1.26	0.99
Total	20.73	21.92	4.02	3.32

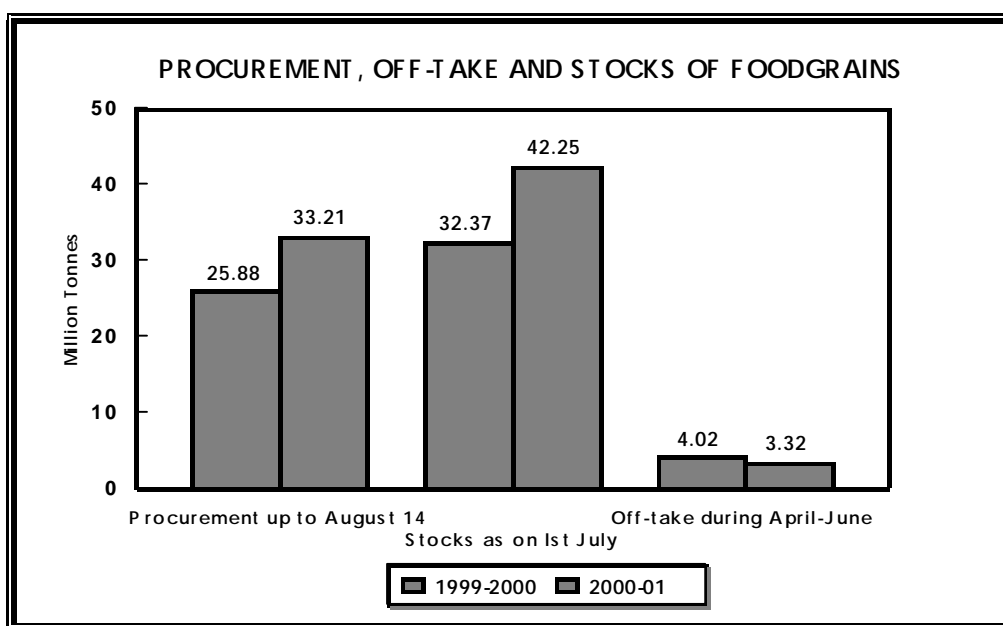
Off-take from the public distribution system central pool during April-June, 2000-01 was 3.32 million tonnes which was lower by 17.4 per cent than the off-take of 4.02 million tonnes during corresponding period of last year.

## STOCKS

(Million Tonnes)

	As on 1st June		As on 1st July	
	1999	2000	1999	2000
Rice	11.14	15.12	10.74	14.49
Wheat	22.21	27.76	21.63	27.76
Total	33.35	42.88	32.37	42.25

Stocks of foodgrains as on 1st July, 2000 at 42.25 million tonnes was higher by 30.5 per cent than the level at 32.37 million tonnes as on 1st July, 1999.

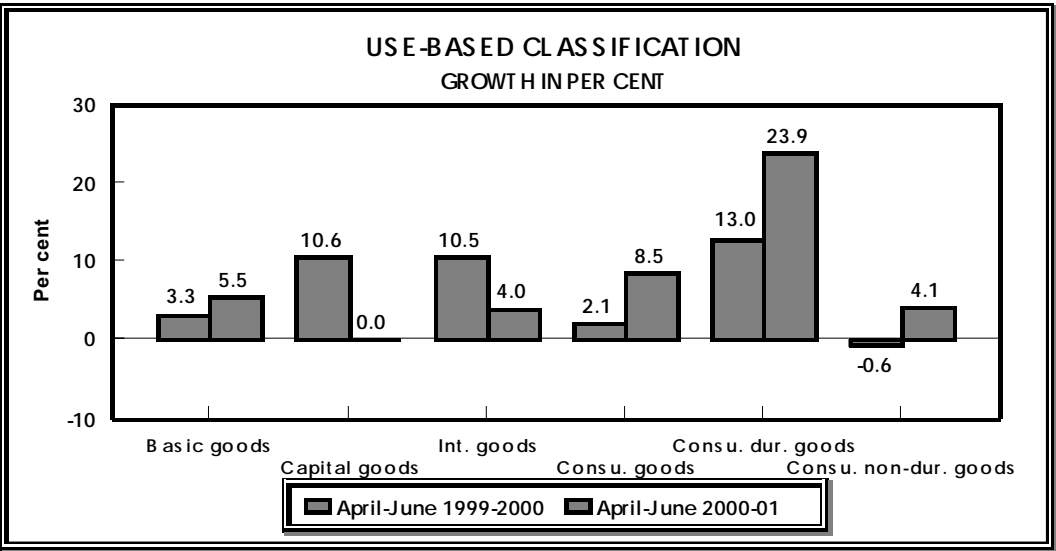
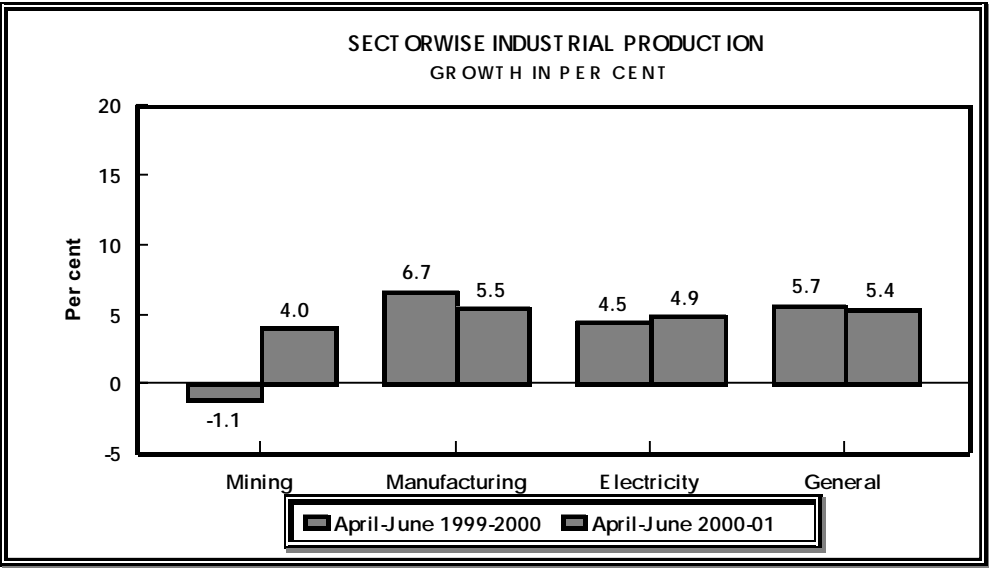


## INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

SECTORWISE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION (Base = 1993-94 = 100)	<i>(Percentage change)</i>					
	1998-99/ 1997-98	1999-00/ 1998-99	June '99/ June '98	June '00/ June '99	<u>April-June</u>	
					1999-00	2000-01
<b><u>General</u></b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>5.4</b>
Mining & Quarrying	-1.7	0.8	-1.7	3.8	-1.1	4.0
Manufacturing	4.1	9.2	5.8	5.1	6.7	5.5
Electricity	6.5	6.1	4.1	4.7	4.5	4.9
<b><u>Use-Based Classification</u></b>						
Basic goods	1.4	5.1	4.7	4.6	3.3	5.5
Capital goods	11.5	5.4	9.2	-1.8	10.6	0.0
Intermediate goods	5.9	15.4	8.0	3.9	10.5	4.0
Consumer goods	1.8	5.4	0.4	9.1	2.1	8.5
<b><u>Of which</u></b>						
Consumer Durables	4.5	13.3	11.0	27.1	13.0	23.9
Consumer non-Durables	1.2	3.2	-2.3	3.6	-0.6	4.1

The overall growth rate of Industrial production in **April-June, 2000** was 5.4 per cent as compared to 5.7 per cent in April-June, 1999. The production growth in manufacturing sector, electricity generation and mining & quarrying during April-June, 2000 was 5.5%, 4.9% and 4.0% as against 6.7%, 4.5% and (-) 1.1% respectively.

As per use-based classification, production in basic goods, consumer goods (both durables and non-durables) during April-June, 2000 registered higher increase while in capital goods and intermediate goods recorded lower increase over the corresponding month of last year.

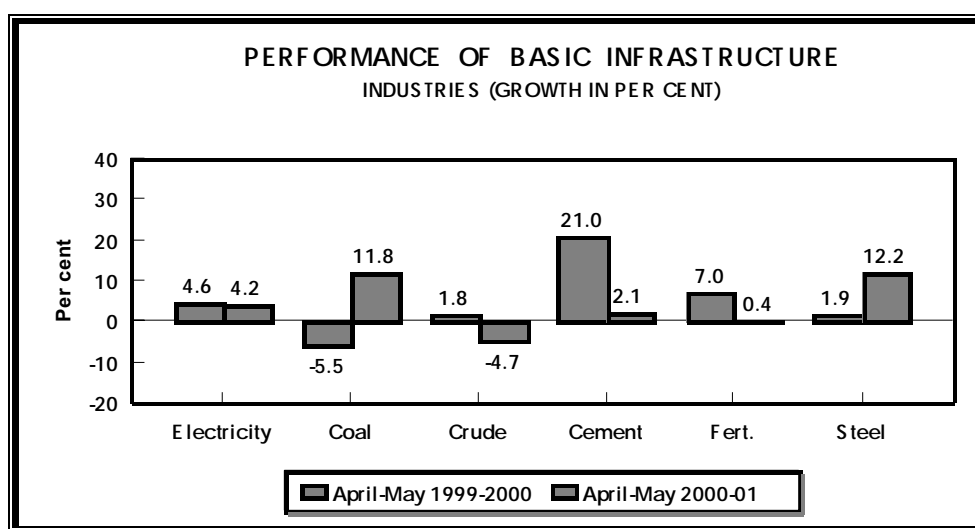


## INFRASTRUCTURE INDUSTRIES

PRODUCTION IN INFRASTRUCTURE INDUSTRIES								
Industry/Infrastructure	Unit	May 1999	May 2000	Full Year 1999-00	Percentage change April-May			
					1999-00	2000-01	1999-00/ 1998-99	2000-01/ 1999-00
Coal	Mn. Ton	21.74	24.37	298.98	41.91	46.86	-5.5	11.8
Electricity Generation	Mn. Kwh	39401	41545	480011	78930	82270	4.6	4.2
Hydel	Mn. kw	5409	6293	80533	11094	12658	-18.6	14.1
Thermal (including nuclear)	Mn. kw	33992	35252	399478	67836	69612	9.7	2.6
Plant Load Factor	Per cent	68.2	69.3	67.3	69.6	69.5	-	-
Crude petroleum	000 tons	2842	2712	32005	5537	5278	1.8	-4.7
Petroleum Products	000 tons	6236	8270	85894	12289	16307	17.4	32.7
Finished steel	000 tons	2275.2	2478.3	27820.8	4413.1	4953.2	1.9	12.2
Cement	000 tons	8640	9050	100240	17290	17660	21.0	2.1
Fertilizers	000 tons	1128.8	1127.6	14273.9	2056.7	2064.5	7.0	0.4
<b>Average growth rate*</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>6.8</b>
Cargo handled at major ports	Mn. Ton	22.06	25.22	271.87	42.88	46.95	6.6	9.5
Telecommunications								
a) Net switching capacity	000 lines	64.04	204.24	6717.32	67.31	284.47	-38.5	322.6
b) Net Tele. connections	000 nos	126.71	213.63	4917.66	224.21	348.69	-3.9	55.5
Revenue earning goods traffic on railways	Mn. Ton	37.45	40.07	456.31	71.45	77.08	7.8	7.9

\* Weights in IIP (Base: 1993-94) are indicated in the brackets, Electricity generation (10.2), Coal (3.2), Finished steel (5.1), Crude oil (4.2), Refinery throughput (2.0), Cement (2.0) and Fertilisers (2.1).

Core infrastructure industries had mixed performance in **April-May, 2000**. In this period average growth rate was 6.8 per cent as against 4.8 per cent in the corresponding period last year.



## REVENUE EARNING GOODS TRAFFIC ON RAILWAYS

REVENUE EARNING GOODS TRAFFIC ON RAILWAYS							
Commodities	Million Tonnes					Percentage Change	
	1999	May 2000	Full Year 1999-00	1999-00	April-May 2000-01	May 2000/1999	April-May 2000-01/1999-00
Coal	17.66	19.32	209.93	33.92	37.11	9.4	9.4
Raw material for Steel Plants	2.78	3.20	37.48	5.64	6.14	15.1	8.9
Pig Iron & Finished Steel From Steel Plants	0.89	1.00	11.76	1.78	1.94	12.4	9.0
Iron Ore for Exports	1.02	1.04	12.32	1.62	2.08	2.0	28.4
Cement	3.85	3.96	43.57	7.54	7.72	2.9	2.4
Foodgrains	2.48	2.41	31.04	4.45	4.90	-2.8	10.1
Fertilizers	2.31	2.17	31.04	4.17	3.78	-6.1	-9.4
POL	2.89	3.05	34.39	5.58	5.70	5.5	2.2
Balance other goods	3.57	3.92	44.78	6.75	7.71	9.8	14.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>37.45</b>	<b>40.07</b>	<b>456.31</b>	<b>71.45</b>	<b>77.08</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>7.9</b>

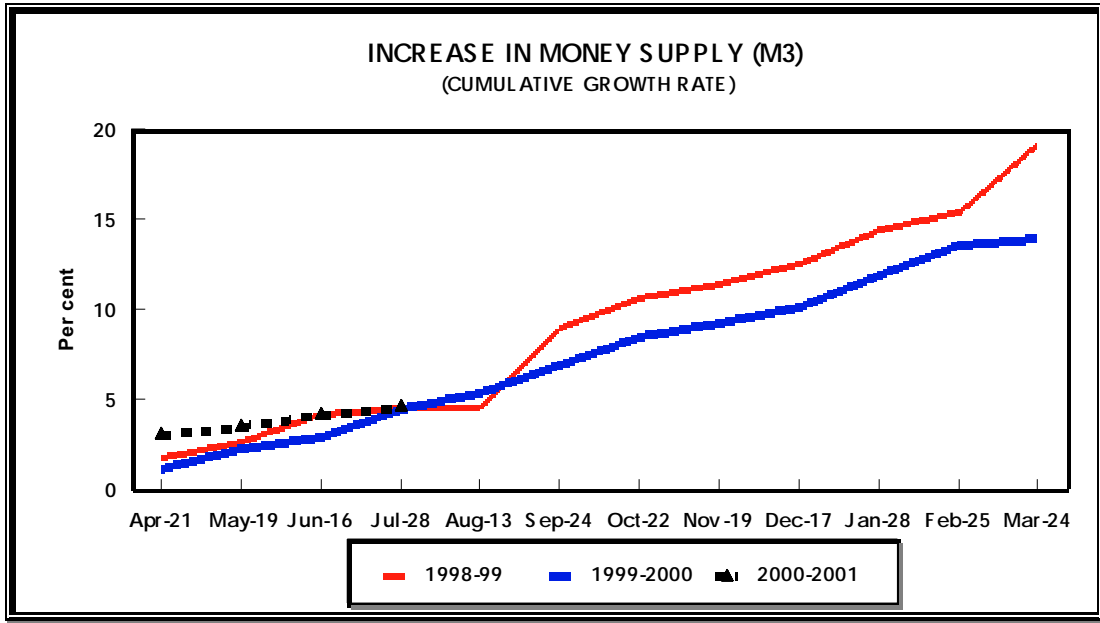
The revenue earning goods traffic handled by the Railways increased by 7.9 per cent during **April-May, 2000** as compared to 7.8 per cent in the corresponding period of last year. The increase was on account of rail traffic for cement, coal, foodgrains, raw material for steel plants, pig iron & finished steel from steel plants and balance other goods.

## MONEY AND BANKING

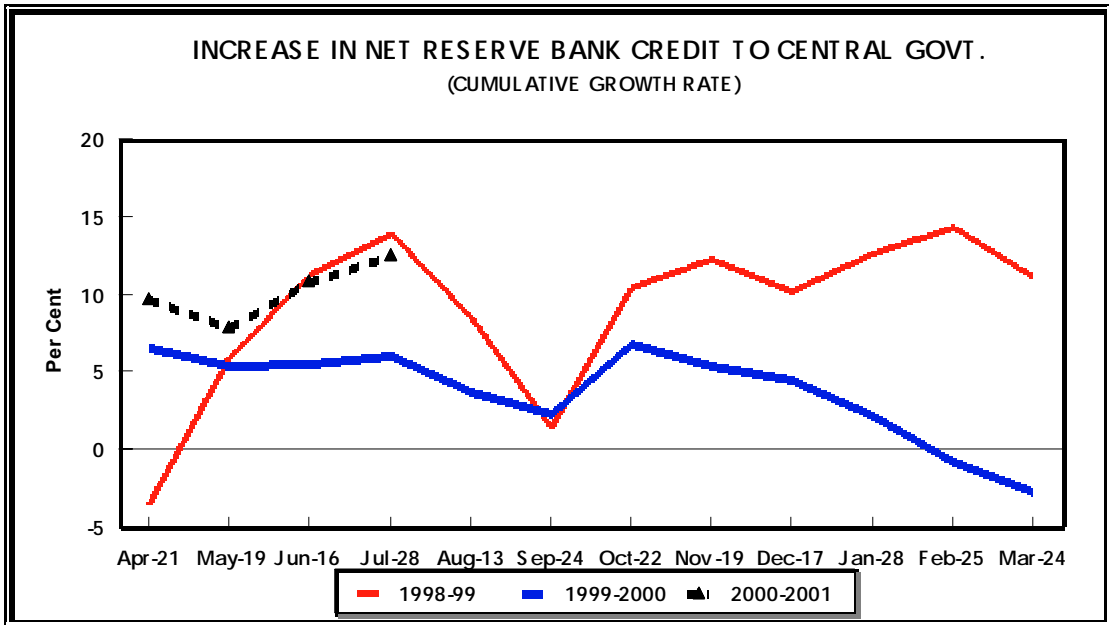
<b>VARIATIONS IN MONEY STOCK</b>						
	<b>Full Year Mar 31 '99 to Mar 31 '00</b>	<b>Mar 31 '00 to Jul 28 '00 (PR)</b>	<b>Full Year Mar 31 '99 to Mar 31 '00</b>	<b>Mar 31 '99 to Jul 30 '99 (P)</b>	<b>Mar 31 '00 to Jul 28 '00 (PR)</b>	<b>Jul 30 '99 to Jul 28 '00 (P)</b>
	<i>(Rs crore)</i>			<i>(per cent)</i>		
<b>M1 (I+II+IV)</b>	31492	2093	10.2	-0.0	0.6	10.9
<b>M3(M1+ III)</b>	136182	52592	13.9	4.6	4.7	14.0
I. Currency with the public	19761	5953	11.7	4.8	3.2	10.0
II. Demand deposits with banks	12418	-4917	9.1	-6.6	-3.3	12.9
III. Time deposits with banks	104689	50500	15.6	6.7	6.5	15.4
IV. Other deposits with RBI	-687	1057	-18.1	21.9	34.0	-10.0
<b>Sources of change in M3</b>						
<i>(1+2+3+4-5)</i>						
1. Net bank credit to Govt (A+B)	55077	37008	14.2	8.4	8.4	14.2
A. RBI's net credit to Govt <sup>a</sup>	-4275	12787	-2.8	2.4	8.6	3.1
To Central Govt	-5587	17479	-3.8	6.1	12.5	1.9
To State Govts	1312	-4692	18.4	-72.8	-55.6	93.5
B. Other bank credit to Govt	59352	24220	25.3	12.3	8.3	20.8
2. Bank credit to commercial sector	82548	19516	16.6	0.5	3.4	19.9
3. Net foreign exchange assets of banking sector <sup>b</sup>	27795	-3509	15.6	4.4	-1.7	8.8
4. Govt's currency liabilities to the public	416	7	10.8	6.1	0.2	4.7
5. Banking sector's net non-monetary liabilities other than time deposits	29654	429	35.6	-1.8	0.4	38.6
P Provisional						
PR Partially revised						
a. Includes special securities						
b. Inclusive of appreciation in the value of gold following its re-valuation close to international market price effective October 17, 1990. Such appreciation has a corresponding effect on RBI's net non-monetary liabilities.						

During the current financial year so far (i.e., March 31, 2000 to July 28, 2000) money supply (M3) increased by 4.7 per cent as against an increase of 4.6 per cent in the corresponding period of 1999-2000. Among its components, currency with the public showed a growth of 3.2 per cent as against 4.8 per cent in the corresponding period of last year. Demand deposits with banks declined by 3.3 per cent than that of 6.6 per cent in the corresponding period of last financial year. Time deposits with banks has gone up by 6.5 per cent as against an increase of 6.7 per cent in the corresponding period of last year. The annual growth of M3 as on July 28, 2000 stood at 14.0 per cent.





On the sources side, the Net Bank Credit to Government showed a growth of 8.4 per cent during the current financial year (i.e. March 31, 2000 to July 28, 2000) which is same as in the same period of 1999-2000. RBI's Net Credit to Central Government increased by 8.6 per cent as against an increase of 2.4 per cent in 1999-2000. Bank credit to the commercial sector increased by 3.4 per cent as against an increase of 0.5 per cent in the same period of last year. Net foreign exchange assets of banking sector declined by 1.7 per cent as against an increase of 4.4 per cent in the corresponding period of 1999-2000.



## SCHEDULED COMMERCIAL BANKS

<b>SCHEDULED COMMERCIAL BANKS: VARIATION IN ASSETS AND LIABILITIES</b>						
	Full Year Mar 26,'99 to Mar 24,'00	Mar 24,'00 to Jul 28,'00 (PR)	Full Year Mar 26,'99 to Mar 24,'00	Mar 26,'99 to Jul 30,'99	Mar 24,'00 to Jul 28,'00 (P)	Jul 30,'99 to Jul 28,'00 (P)
	<i>(Rs crore)</i>			<i>(per cent)</i>		
1. Bank credit	65345	23321	17.7	0.9	5.4	23.0
Food credit	8875	7117	52.8	33.7	27.7	45.9
Non-food credit	58246	14428	16.5	-0.7	3.5	21.5
2. Aggregate deposits	99320	40548	13.9	4.1	5.0	14.9
Demand deposits	9943	-3529	8.5	-6.9	-2.8	13.3
Time deposits	89376	44078	15.0	6.3	6.4	15.1
3. Borrowings from RBI	3597	-644	124.3	-4.6	-9.9	111.8
4. Cash reserves	-5161	2420	-7.6	3.8	3.9	-7.6
Cash in hand	968	96	22.2	1.7	1.8	22.3
Balances with RBI	-6129	2324	-9.6	4.0	4.0	-9.6
5. Investments in Govt. and other approved securities	54326	22031	21.3	10.5	7.1	17.6
P = Provisional						

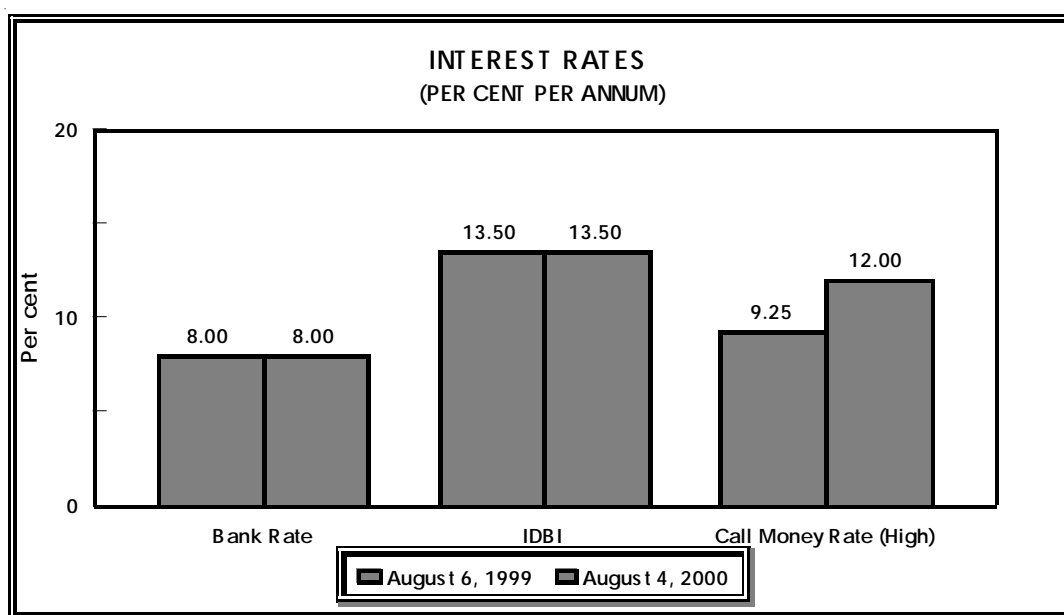
Bank credit by the scheduled commercial banks during the current financial year so far (i.e. March 24, 2000 to July 28, 2000) showed a growth of 5.4 per cent as compared with an increase of 0.9 per cent in the corresponding period of last financial year. Food credit increased by 27.7 per cent while non-food credit increased by 3.5 per cent during this period.

### INTEREST RATES (PER CENT PER ANNUM)

<i>Item/ Week ended</i>	<i>1999</i>	<i>2000</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>Aug. 6</i>	<i>Aug. 4</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
Bank rate	8.00	8.00
I.D.B.I. <sup>1</sup>	13.50	13.50
Prime Lending Rate <sup>2</sup>	12.00-12.50	11.25-12.00
Deposit Rate <sup>3</sup>	8.00-11.00	8.00-9.50
Call Money Rate <sup>4</sup> (Low/High)		
-Borrowings	7.75/9.25	7.00/12.00
-Lendings		7.50/12.00

1. Medium Term Lending Rate (MTLR).
2. Prime Lending Rate relates to five major Banks.
3. Deposit Rate relates to five major banks for term deposits of more than one year maturity.
4. Inter-Bank Call Money Rates as reported by DFHI.

As on August 4, 2000, Prime Lending Rate was 11.25 to 12.00 per cent as against 12.00 to 12.50 per cent on August 6, 1999. Deposit Rate ranged from 8.00 to 9.50 percent against 8.00 to 11.00 per cent in the same period of last year.



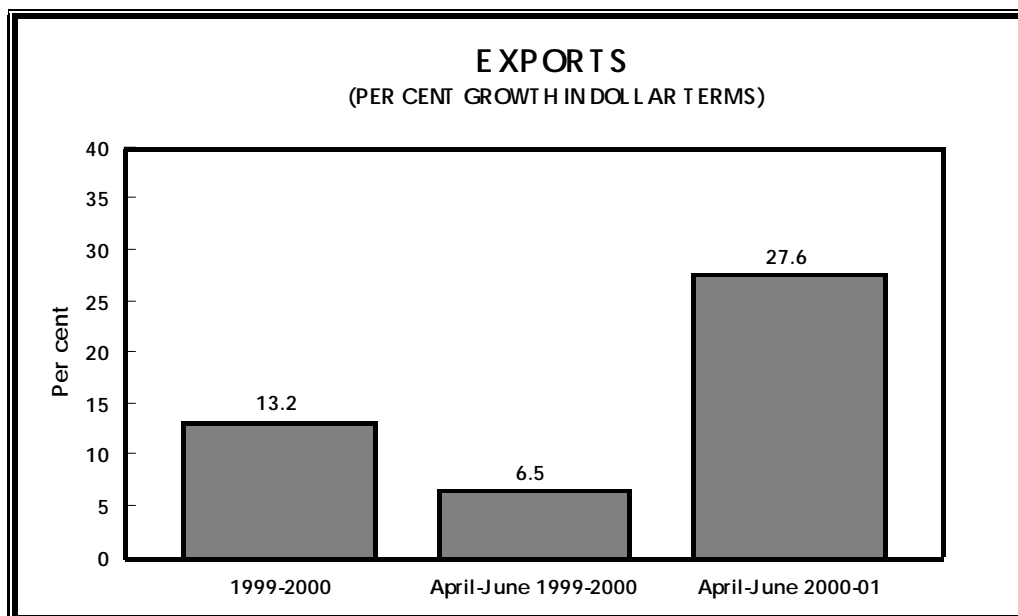
# EXTERNAL SECTOR

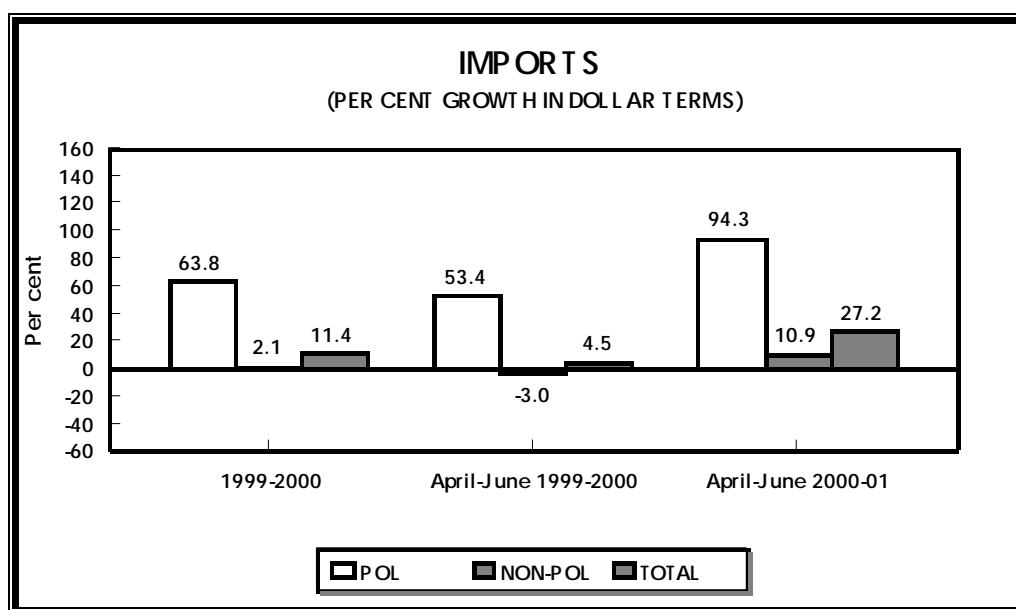
## FOREIGN TRADE

FOREIGN TRADE*						
Item	1998-99(R)	1999-00(P)	April-June		April-June	
			1999-00	2000-01	1999-00	2000-01
			<i>Rs. Crore</i>		<i>% change</i>	
Exports	139752	162925	34241	44955	12.1	31.3
Imports	178332	204583	44410	58090	10.1	30.8
POL	26919	45421	8686	17357	61.3	99.8
Non-POL	151413	159161	35724	40733	2.2	14.0
Trade Balance	-38580	-41658	-10169	-13136	-	-
			<i>Million Dollar</i>		<i>% change</i>	
Exports	33218	37599	7986	10194	6.5	27.6
Imports	42389	47212	10356	13177	4.5	27.2
POL	6399	10482	2026	3935	53.4	94.3
Non-POL	35990	36730	8330	9242	-3.0	10.9
Trade Balance	-9171	-9613	-2369	-2983	-	-

\* Figures are provisional

Exports in dollar terms during **April-June, 2000-01** increased by 27.6 per cent as compared to an increase of 6.5 per cent during April-June, 1999-2000. Imports increased by 27.2 per cent as against an increase of 4.5 per cent in corresponding period last year. Imports of POL increased by 94.3 per cent as against an increase of 53.4 per cent in last year.



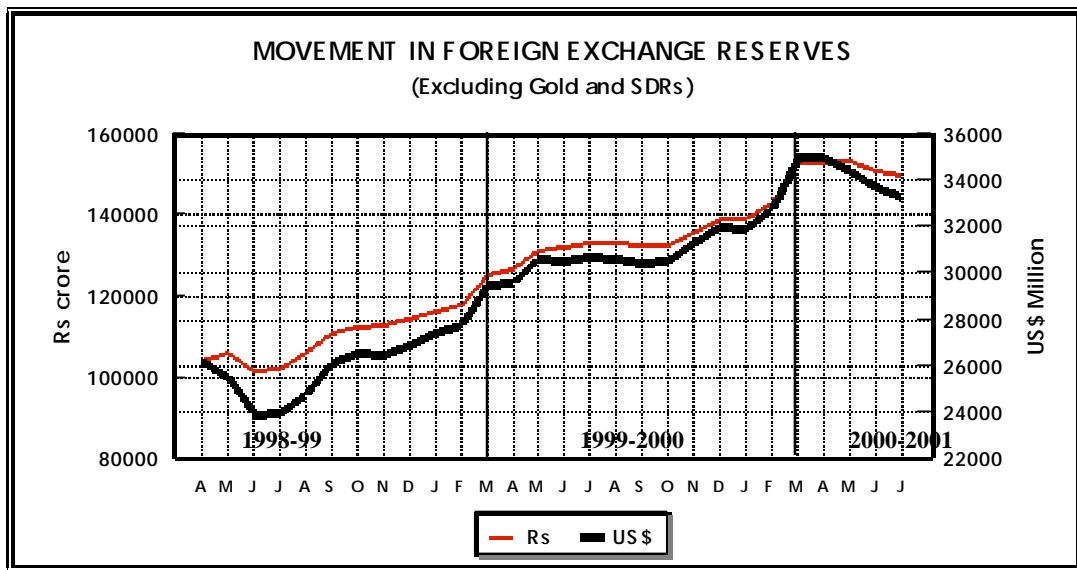


## FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES (EXCLUDING GOLD AND SDRs)				
At the end of	Amount		Variation	
	Rs Crore	\$ Million	Rs Crore	\$ Million (Over last Year)
March, 1993	20140	6434	5562	803
March, 1994	47287	15068	27147	8634
March, 1995	66006	20809	18719	5741
March, 1996	58446	17044	-7560	-3765
March, 1997	80368	22367	21922	5323
March, 1998	102507	25975	22139	3608
March, 1999	125412	29522	22905	3547
March, 2000	152924	35058	27512	5536
<b>2000-2001</b>			<i>(Over last Month)</i>	
April	152779	34993	-145	-65
May	153322	34392	543	-601
June	150901	33774	-2421	-618
July*	149811	33299	-1090	-475

\* Provisional

Foreign Exchange Reserves (excluding Gold & SDRs), were \$ 35058 million at the end of 1999-2000. These reserves have decreased by \$1759 million and stood at \$33299 million at the end of July, 2000.

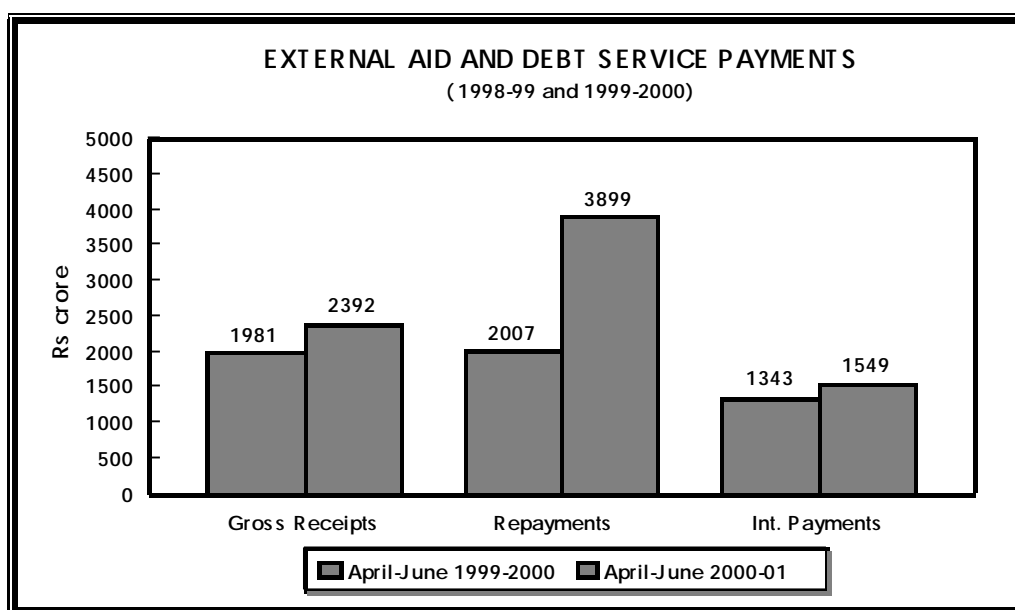


## EXTERNAL AID RECEIPTS AND DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS\*

(Rs Crore)

	Receipts		Repayment of Principal		Payment of Interest	
	1999-00	2000-01	1999-00	2000-01	1999-00	2000-01
Loans- Govt. A/C	1295	2052	1752	3619	983	1165
Grants- Govt. A/C	96	84	-	-	-	-
Total	1391	2136	1752	3619	983	1165
Non-Govt. loans	590	256	255	280	360	384
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1981</b>	<b>2392</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>3899</b>	<b>1343</b>	<b>1549</b>
	(462)	(542)				
Net Flows (net of repayment)	-26	-1507	-	-	-	-
Net Transfers (net of repayment and interest payments)	-1369	-3056	-	-	-	-
* April-June						
Note: Figures in brackets are in terms of million US \$						

Gross external aid in **April-June, 2000** at Rs 2392 crore was 20.7 per cent higher than that of Rs 1981 crore in April-June, 1999. Net aid flows (net of repayments) amounted to Rs (-) 1507 crore as against Rs (-) 26 crore. Net aid transfers (net of repayments and interest payments) was Rs (-) 3056 crore as against Rs (-) 1369 crore in the corresponding period of last year.



## EXCHANGE RATES

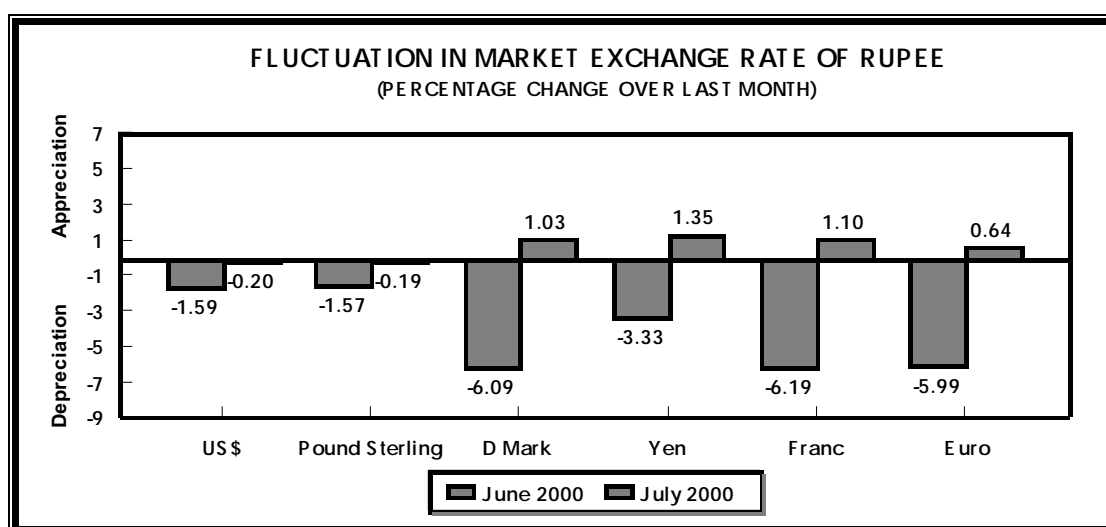
Rupees Per Unit of Foreign Currency

(Market Rate<sup>a</sup>)

Month	US Dollar	Pound Sterling	Deutsche Mark*	Japanese Yen	French Franc*	Euro@	5 Country NEER Base 1995=100	5 Country REER Base 1995=100
March 1997	35.87	57.69	21.15	0.2923	6.29	-	97.74	104.88
March 1998	39.50	65.62	21.64	0.3067	6.45	-	90.42	103.19
March 1999	42.45	68.77	23.58	0.3548	7.03	46.24	83.14	101.17
March 2000	43.59	68.93	21.54	0.4208	6.42	42.08	81.75	99.39
<b>2000-2001</b>								
April	43.64	69.05	21.00	0.4142	6.26	41.30	81.79	100.84
May	43.98	66.40	20.34	0.4069	6.06	39.87	82.91	101.98
June	44.69	67.46	21.66	0.4209	6.46	42.41	80.52	98.80
July	44.78	67.59	21.44	0.4153	6.39	42.14	80.72	98.55

a. FEDAI Rates  
 @ Came into operation w.e.f. 1.1.1999  
 \* The rates for these foreign currencies are the average of week end rates reported in the Financial Times, London since exchange rates for the currencies are not quoted in India from Jan. 1,1999.

The average market exchange rate of the Rupee during July, 2000 appreciated against Deutsche Mark, French Franc, Japanese Yen and Euro and depreciated against US Dollar and Pound Sterling compared to average market rate during June, 2000. NEER moved up and REER moved down in July, 2000 as compared with the last month.





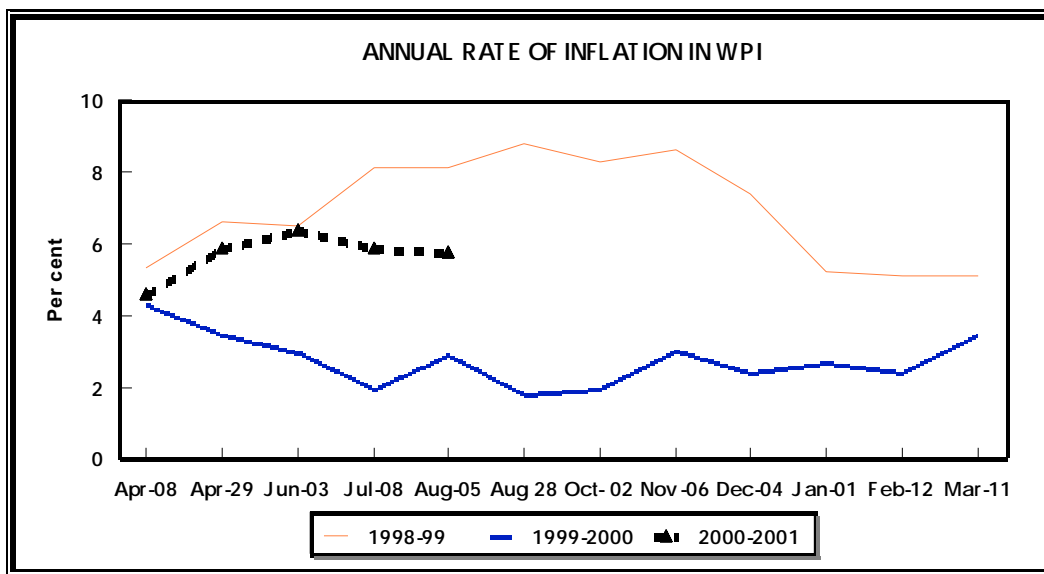
# INFLATION

## WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX

WHOLESALE PRICES (Base 1993-94)						
Items/Groups	Weight (%)	Per cent Variation During				
		MONTH		YEAR (point to point)		
		(ending 5.8.2000)		(ending 5.8.2000) <sup>(P)</sup>		
		Last Year	Current Year	Last Year	Current Year	
All Commodities	100.00	0.4	0.3	2.9	5.8	
<u>Food Items</u>	26.94	1.4	-0.3	4.3	-0.3	
Food Articles (primary)	15.40	2.5	-0.6	7.9	0.9	
Foodgrains	5.01	2.5	-1.0	21.1	-1.3	
Food Products	11.54	-0.4	0.1	-0.6	-2.1	
<u>Non Food Items</u>	73.06	-0.0	0.6	2.2	8.4	
Raw materials*	6.62	-0.3	-0.6	-7.4	2.4	
Fuel, Power, Light and Lubricants	14.23	0.2	0.0	4.2	26.5	
Manufactured Products	52.21	-0.1	0.9	3.1	3.5	

\* Comprises primary non-food articles and minerals.                      P = Provisional

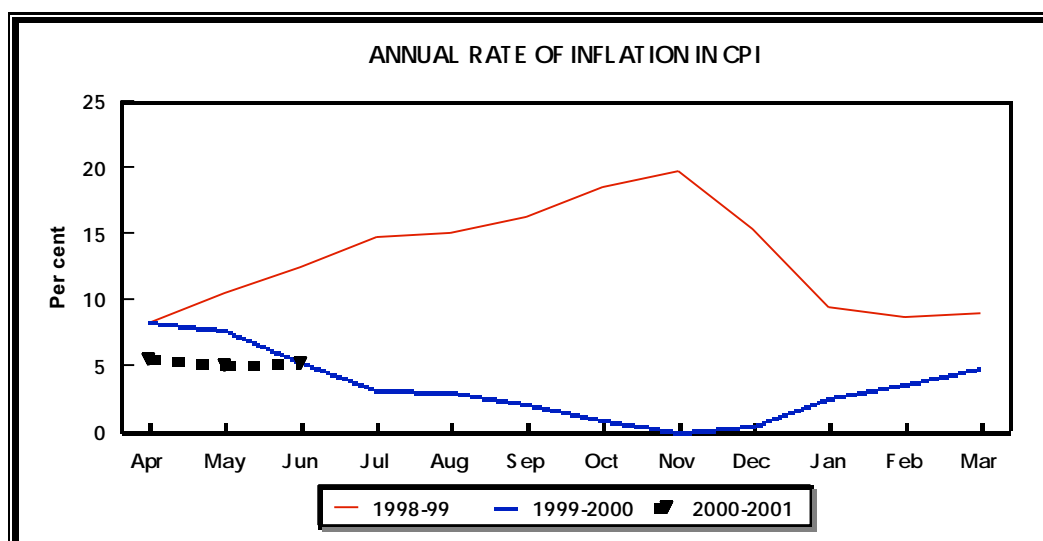
The annual rate of inflation based on **Wholesale Price Index (WPI)** stood at 5.8 per cent for week ended August 5, 2000 compared to 2.9 per cent a year ago. This rate was contributed by a decline of 0.3 per cent in Food Items, 26.5 per cent increase in Fuel, Power and Lubricants and 3.5 per cent increase in Manufactured Products as against an increase of 4.3 per cent, 4.2 per cent and 3.1 per cent respectively, on the corresponding date of last year.



## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX AND INFLATION RATE		
	1999-2000 (Up to June, 1999)	2000-2001 (Up to June, 2000)
	<i>Per cent</i>	
Annual Inflation	5.3	5.2
Financial Year Inflation (%)	1.5	1.8
Last Month (% change)	0.2	0.5
Level of Index	420	442
Average of Index for 12 months ending June	420.58	433.33

The All India **Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW)** for June, 2000 which stood at 442 has increased by 0.5 per cent over the previous month's level and increased by 5.2 per cent over June, 1999.



## EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE STATISTICS

(Lakhs)

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE STATISTICS				
	February		April-February	
	1999	2000*	1998-99	1999-2000*
1. No. of applicants on Live Register at the end of the month	401.21	403.95	401.21	403.95
2. No. of registrations/ re-registrations	4.11	4.18	58.04	55.78
3. Placements effected	0.16	0.16	2.02	1.94
		<i>(per cent)</i>		
4. Placements (3) as percentage of the registrations (2)	3.89	3.83	3.48	3.48
* Provisional				

The number of applicants on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges at the end of **February**, 2000 was 404 lakh, higher by 0.8 per cent as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. The number of registrations during **February**, 2000 was higher by 1.7 per cent than that in **February**, 1999. The Placements as percentage of registrations during **February**, 2000 was 3.83 as against 3.89 in **February**, 1999. The total placements effected during 1999-2000 (April-February) was 1.94 lakh as compared to 2.02 lakh in the corresponding period of 1998-99.