

ing the State Government to do anything in this regard?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: Sir, as I stated, 82 per cent of the shares are held by the State Government and 18 per cent by private people. Practically there is no interference from the Reserve Bank of India so far as its Government transactions are concerned.

*107. [The Questioner (Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 35-36 infra.]

Increase in exports by the STC

*108. **SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Trading Corporation has recorded 55 per cent increase in exports during the first six months of the current financial year;

(b) if so, what were the main items exported by the STC during the above period; and

(c) what was the actual target of export during the last three years, and what was the actual achievement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main items exported by STC during the first six months of the current financial year are—coffee, spices, extractions, engineering products, sugar meat & marine products, chemicals, drugs, processed foods and leatherware.

(c) Export target and actual exports during the last three years are as under:

(Rs. in Crores)

	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
Export Target	708	704	387
Actual Exports	796	720	378*

*Includes only direct exports of

STC.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the actual export for the year 1985-86 when compared to the target which was fixed, was slightly about Rs. 10 crores less within a period of six months compared to the relevant period of the last year, it is more than 55 per cent. Sir, the items which we are exporting are coffee and spices and other items which have been given in the reply. They have not gone in for exporting more items apart from these items which we have been exporting for years together.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether they have taken any steps to export more items of different varieties.

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI: Sir, the hon. Member will be happy to know that we are not only exporting the canalised items, but we are also exporting the non-canalised items. In the corresponding year and recently also we have improved our ground in ex-

porting non-canalised items to a great extent and the percentage ratio is...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You mean non-traditional items.

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI: Non-canalised. And we have improved the position to a great extent. April to September 1986 the grand total is Rs. 136.47 crores in comparison to Rs. 87.08 crores last year. That is quite an improvement and in this area we have already explored.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is negotiating with other developing countries for the export of items and with how many countries they have contracted to export various items?

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI: Obviously we are exploring possibilities in the international market with almost all the developing nations, but it is difficult to specify the number of the countries, because it depends on the market conditions and situation. It is also not good in the interest of the country to disclose all the information as to which country we are negotiating with and what items we are negotiating.

SHRI LAKSHMI KANT JHA: It seems to me that the performane of the STC has to be judged not merely in terms of the increase in the business in canalised items, because there is a certain amount of compulsion on the trade to sell those products through the STC. In fact, it has been said that very often the STC only collects the commission and the real transaction is between the exporting parties in India and the ultimate buyer abroad. Now, there are and should be items where the STC should be developing exports by its own initiative and enterprice. I wonder whether the Minister will consider the possibility of not only segregating the data on this subject, but also trying to see that the STC is really generating additional exports for the country

and the concept of canalisation, which only means, as I said, gathering some commission begins to receive less emphasis than was done in the past.

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI: I entirely agree with the hon. Member's observations. We are to increase our export potential apart from the canalised items not merely on compulsions. I give you the figure here that the canalised items were exported amounting to Rs. 45.04 crores and non-canalised Rs. 90.25. So, it gives precisely a clear picture that the STC is promoting in other areas also.

*109. [The questioner (Shri Shanker Singh Vaghela) was absent. For answer, vide cdl's. 36-37 infra.]

Room occupancy of ITDC hotels

*110. **SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:**

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the room occupancy rate of ITDC hotels has fallen during 1986 as compared to 1985; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED): (a) No, Sir. The overall room occupancy of ITDC Hotels during Jan-Sep. 86 has increased to 64 per cent as against 54 per cent during the corresponding period of the precious year.

(b) The Question does not arise.

श्री ब्रजलाल मनहर : मान्यवर, यहां आई. टी. डी. सी. होटलों की ओक्युपेंस में कमी या रही है जब कि प्राइवेट