

Development of tourist centres in Gujarat

846. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the schemes with the Central Government for the development of tourist spots in Saurashtra and Kutch regions of Gujarat during 1984 and 1985;

(b) what amount was allocated for the development of tourism in the State during 1983 and so far during 1984;

(c) whether the Central Government has received any proposals in this regard from the Government of Gujarat; if so what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN): (a) to (c) On the basis of proposals received from the State Government, the Department has taken up the project of construction of cuba huts in the Wild Ass Sanctuary, Runn of Kutch at an estimated cost of Rs. 19.65 lakhs. A proposal for flood-lighting of Lakhota Palace in Jamnagar is under consideration.

During the first three years of the current Five Year Plan, an amount of Rs. 6.86 lakhs, was released to the State Government for provision of ten-bed accommodation and boats in Ukkai Lake, Rs. 1.30 lakhs for a mini-bus for use in Sasangir Lion Sanctuary, and Rs. 0.50 lakhs for the promotion of Fairs & Festivals.

Quantity of import of staple fibre

847. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that import of staple fibre has been banned recently under restricted item only;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to permit its import under open General Licence and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) All the principal types of staple fibres are already allowed to be imported by Actual Users under Open General Licence, subject to the conditions laid down in terms of the import Policy in force.

Piling up of tobacco stock in Andhra Pradesh

848. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Trading Corporation has enquired into the causes of piling up of tobacco stock in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) if so, the results of the enquiry; and

(c) what measures have been taken to ease the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) to (c) The State Trading Corporation has not conducted any such enquiry. However, the Tobacco Board and the Government have been seized of the problem. The following measures have *inter alia* been taken to ease the marketing situation in A.P. in 1984:

(i) A meeting was held with major cigarette manufacturers in April, 1984 and they were requested to step up their purchases direct from the growers.