

a view, *inter alia*, to making them simpler.

(b) Details are yet to be finalised.

Quantum of foreign aid during 1979-80 and 1980-81

1277. SHRI GURUDEV GUPTA:

SHRI SAWAISINGH
SISODIA:

SHRIMATI HAMIDA
HABIBULLAH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign aid/assistance received by Government during 1979-80;

(b) whether it is a fact that the prospects of a substantial foreign aid during 1980-81 are bleak;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) The estimated receipts of gross aid of the Government of India during 1979-80 are Rs. 1370.40 crores.

(b) to (d) The members of India Consortium account for the bulk of foreign aid received by India. Indications of aid for the current year, 1980-81 from the Consortium members would be known at the meeting scheduled on July 3 and 4, 1980 at Paris. The quantum of aid from East European Countries and Middle East Countries/their organisations will be known after bilateral discussions are concluded during the course of the year.

Shortage of raw cashewnuts

1278. SHRI CHADALAVADA VENKATARAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is acute shortage of raw cashewnuts for the cashew processing industry; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for this shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The installed capacity of the cashew processing industry is in excess of the domestic production and availability of imported raw cashew.

Domestic Youth Tourism

1279. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to build a fund to promote domestic youth tourism; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) and (b) The Government has no proposal under its consideration to build a fund to promote domestic youth tourism. The Central Department of Tourism, however, has constructed a chain of 16 youth hostels in the country to promote youth travel. One youth hostel is under construction and sanction for another one was issued during 1979-80.

The Central Department of Tourism also offers, through its Institute of Skiing and Mountaineering at Gulmarg, courses in winter skiing and water skiing in summer to our youth whereby youth travel is combined with the promotion of recreational activities. It has also assisted financially and through the loan of services, free of charge, of ski instructors in the organisation of various trekking programmes for our youth. The Central Government also gives an annual grant-in-aid to the Youth Hostels Association of India which