

(b) and (c) The major recommendations made were as follows on which necessary action has been initiated by the authorities concerned:

(i) Expansion of the complex at Kosi including landscaping.

(ii) Beautification of the area between the Taj and Agra Fort.

(iii) Widening of Mahatma Gandhi Road which is the main approach road to the Taj.

(iv) Improvement to the area around the Taj, Fort and Itmad-ud-Daullah.

(v) Selection of suitable sites for hotels.

(vi) Shifting of the bus stand in front of the Agra Fort.

(vii) Augmentation of electricity supply to the Taj area, Fatehpur Sikri and Kosi restaurant.

(viii) Removal of encroachments from and cleaning up of the area surrounding the monuments at Fatehpur Sikri and Mathura.

(ix) Removal of beggars, touts and hawkers causing nuisance to tourists at monuments, hotels, etc.

Seizure of smuggled cloves

*161. SHRI JANARDHANA REDDY: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of smuggled cloves was recently seized from a village on the sea coast in Nellore District of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and what action has been taken against the persons involved?

THE MINISTER OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) On 1st July, 1976, a quantity of

1230 Kgs. (approximately) of cloves suspected to be smuggled goods valued at Rs. 3,69,000/- were seized by the District authorities at Thuptilipalem coastal village, Nellore. The seized goods were subsequently taken over by the Customs authorities in Nellore. Detention orders under Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act in respect of 5 persons have been issued. Three persons have been arrested so far. Further investigations are in progress.

Export of carpets

*162. SHRI SAWAISINGH SISO-DIA:

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI KUMARI CHUNDAWAT:

SHRI MAHENDRA BAHADUR SINGH:

SHRI PRAKASH MEHROTRA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is India's share in the world trade in carpets; and

(b) what steps Government have taken to boost the export of carpets?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) It is estimated that the volume of world trade in hand-knotted oriental carpets is of the order of Rs. 400 crores. India's share of this market is about 10 per cent.

(b) A package of incentives is available to exporters. Export promotion measures are being taken in selected markets by participating in exhibitions and sponsoring sales-cum-study teams. New designs are being introduced. The production base for exports is being strengthened by a massive training programme.