

**Committee on Development of
Tourism**

*44. SHRI DEVENDRA NATH
DWIVEDI; SHRI BIPINPAL DAS;
SHRI VITHAL GADGIL; SHRI
MULKA GOVINDA REDDY:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently set up a Committee of experts to make an in-depth study of the development of tourism in India;

(b) if so, what is the composition of the Committee: and

(c) what are its terms of reference?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) to (c) Government propose to set up a Committee to recommend to it a national policy on tourism. The terms of reference and the composition of the committee are under consideration and decisions in this regard are expected shortly.

Wage-Income-Price Policy

*45. DR. RAJAT KUMAR CHAK-
RABARTI; SHRIMATI
MARGARET ALVA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision in regard to an integrated national wage-income-price policy; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b) The formulation of a national wage-income-price policy is under consideration of Government.

Rise in prices of essential commodities

*46. SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA;
SHRI PRAKASH MEHROTRA;
SHRIMATI LAKSHMI
KUMARI CHUNDAWAT;
SHRI F. M. KHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which Government have been able to check the rise in prices of essential commodities since June, 1977; and

(b) what further steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) During the period March to June, 1977, the index showed an increase of 2.7 per cent as compared to 5.5 per cent increase in the corresponding period last year. The latest index available for the week ending July 2, 1977 indicates a marginal increase of 0.1 per cent as compared to the preceding week, while in the corresponding week last year the prices had gone up by 1.04 per cent.

(b) The Government have alongwith other measures taken the following steps to curb the rising tendency in the prices of essential commodities:

(i) Sale of imported oil for direct consumption at selected high consumption centres at the retail price of Rs. 8.50 per kg.;

(ii) The use of imported oil by the vanaspati industry has been raised from 75 per cent to 90 per cent during the current quarter to help ease the position of indigenous oils;

(iii) The exports of tea will be restricted at 225 million kg. in 1977-78 as against the export of about 40 million kg. in 1976-77;

(iv) Releases of non-levy sugar were increased from 90,000 tonnes in May, 1977 to 1.20 lakhs tonnes each in June and July, 1977 and similar releases will also be made for August, 1977;

(v) The cut in the allotment of cement to States has been reduced from 18 per cent in April-June, 1977, quarter to 15 per cent in the current quarter (July-September);

(vi) Export of essential items of mass consumption is either banned or is being strictly regulated;

(vii) Arrangements have been made to import adequate quantities of edible oils and cotton to meet the current shortage;

(viii) An assessment of the availability of edible oils and cotton during the next year and the extent of imports required is being made. It has been decided to take action to effect imports accordingly.

(fat) State Governments have been advised to take stringent measures against hoarders and blackmarketeers and other antisocial elements.

Joint ventures in Vietnam ,

*47. SHRI BIPINPAL DAS: SHRI DEVENDRA NATH DWIVEDI: SHRI VITHAL GADGIL: SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India are negotiating with the Government of Vietnam for starting joint ventures in a wide range of industrial projects in Vietnam; and

(b) if so, whether Indian private sector will have any participation in such ventures?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-

OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Enquiry against importers of edible oils

*48. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI KUMARI CHUNDAWAT: SHRI PRAKASH MEHROTRA: SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA;

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 33 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 14th June, 1977 and state:

(a) whether the enquiries against some importers of edible oils, against whom there is *prima jade* case, have since been completed; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Foreign Exchange from Tourists

*49. SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA: SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN: SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH: SHRI YOGENDRA MAKAWA-NA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the foreign exchange earned from tourist traffic during 1976-77 was the highest so far;

(b) if so, what was the share of hotels in the public and the private sectors in earning this foreign exchange; and