

production and handling operations.

(b) SAIL is taking various other steps to improve production which are enumerated below:

- On-going modernisation and technological upgradation schemes.
- Ensuring adequate availability of input of the right quality and in the right quantity particularly in the cooking coal including import of low ash coking coal;
- Optimisation and augmentation of captive power generation.
- Systematic maintenance of equipments.
- Strict adherence to technological norms.
- Moulding a better work culture which focuses primarily on better team work and higher levels of discipline.
- R and D efforts and improving productivity and efficiency.
- Introduction and implementation of Total Quality Policy in the SAIL plants/units.

Consultative Committee on tea Plantation

9490. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received a suggestion from Indian Tea Association for setting up a Consultative Committee on tea plantation;

(b) if so, the aims and objectives of the Committee;

(c) whether the Ministry has finalised the Composition of Consultative Committee; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI AR-ANGIL SHREEDHARAN): (a) and (b). Government has received a suggestion from the Indian Tea Association for setting up a Standing Consultative Committee on tea plantation with a view to tackle problems such as agricultural income tax, levies land management of tea estates, etc.

(c) and (d). To tackle various problems of the plantation sector and to facilitate the process of interaction between the Government and the plantation industry Government is considering setting up a "Plantation Development Co-ordination Committee" consisting of representative of the concerned State Governments, Commodity Boards and the Plantation industry.

Export of Diamonds and Gem Stones

9491. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated quantity and value of exports of diamonds, cut and polished gem stones and gold jewellery during the current financial year;

(b) whether the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation propose to increase the export of these items by three fold by 1994-95;

(c) if so, the quantity and value of these items proposed to exported by 1994-95; and

(d) the steps contemplated by MMTC for encouraging 100 per cent export-oriented units in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI AR-ANGIL SHREEDHARAN): (a) According to preliminary projections made by the Gem and Jewellery Promotion Council sectoral exports during 1990-91 may be about Rs. 7,000 crores subject to favourable international trading and other conditions.

(b) and (c). Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation has reported and export of Rs. 127.04 crores of gems and jewellery including diamonds during the year 1989-90. It has tentatively proposed to increase these exports to about Rs. 248 crores during 1994-95.

(d) MMTC intends to continue to support the gold jewellery units set up in the 100% EOU complexes by way marketing inputs, organisation of exhibitions and Buyer-Seller Meets abroad and import and supply of gold to 100% EOUs at international prices under a liberal rate of interest.

[Translation]

Performance of ITDC Hotels

9492. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the agencies in central sector, besides ITDC which are running hotels;

(b) the performance of these hotels vis-a-vis hotels run by ITDC during the last three years;

(c) whether the performance of ITDC hotels has been comparatively unsatisfactory;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the remedial steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) Hotel Corporation of India Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary company of Air India, is operating the following hotels in the central sector:

1. Centaur Hotel, Juhu Beach, Bombay
2. Centaur Hotel, Delhi, Airport.
3. Centaur Lake View Hotel, Srinagar.
4. Centaur Hotel, Bombay Airport.
5. Indo Hokke Hotel, Rajgir. (A Subsidiary Company)

(b) The turnover, net profit/loss and percentage occupancy of the HCI, hotels vis-a-vis 25 hotels owned and operated by ITDC for the last 3 years is given in the attached statement.

(c) to (e). The performance of ITDC hotels is comparatively satisfactory. However, efforts to improve the performance of the ITDC Hotels is continuous process and every effort is made to achieve the same for which the steps taken inter-alia include the following:—

1. Product improvement.
2. Greater thrust in advertising/publicity.