

the return as at the end of September and March every year together with auditor's certificate. The return is to be submitted within a period of two months from the date to which it relates. The first return relates to March 31, 1995.

#### Import of Capital Goods

\*256. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:  
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued any special import licences to import capital goods under the Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the indigenous textile machines industry was badly affected due to tax exemption on the import of capital goods;

(d) if so, the total quantity of capital goods imported so far, item-wise;

(e) the criteria adopted by the Government in permitting such imports; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to protect the interest of textile machines industry?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (e). Under the Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme, Import Licences are issued at concessional Customs Duty of 15% subject to Export Obligations of 4 times of the CIF value of such licences. 4773 licences for a total CIF value of Rs. 7446.92 crores have been issued so far. Data relating actual imports is not being maintained separately.

(f) EPOG licences are also dutiable. Moreover, indigenous manufacturers including Textile Machinery manufacturers are also eligible to supply the machinery by importing necessary components under the above concessional rate of Customs Duty.

[English]

#### Tourism Development by Private Sector

\*257. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL:  
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL:

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

(a) whether the Union Government have asked the States to involve the private sector and tour operators in promoting tourism in the country, particularly in hilly areas of the Himalayan region;

(b) if so, whether any concrete programme of action has been formulated and approved in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which these plans are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) to (d). Creation and improvement of infrastructural facilities for tourism involve heavy investment and since Government resources are limited, all the State Governments have been requested to encourage private sector to make such investments.

Accordingly, the State Governments have been requested to draw up a Tourism Investment plan which would serve as an integral part of their Tourism Master Plans. These Investment Plans should indicate the type of facilities to be established which should be related to specific tourist destinations. Several State Governments have made policy announcements in this regard and identified specific locations for private sector investments in hotel and tourism sector projects.

#### Export of Coffee

\*258. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:  
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the present price of coffee in the domestic market in comparison to June, 1994;

(b) whether the Government have banned the export of coffee to check the hike in coffee price in the domestic market;

(c) if so, the extent to which this step has brought down the prices of coffee and the loss suffered in foreign exchange due to ban on the export of coffee;

(d) whether the Government have received any request from the Coffee Growers Association against the ban on export of coffee;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) (a) to (f). The average retail market price of coffee in the domestic market in June, 1994 to December, 1994 is as follows:

June 1994	August 1994 (when export was restricted)	December 1994 (Rs per 50 kg) (latest price)
4560	8063	5950

Due to un-precedented price rise of coffee in domestic market, Government had decided to impose quantitative restriction on export of coffee in August, 1994 in order to improve the domestic availability. Consequent to this restriction, the domestic price had shown a perceptible decline. On the other hand, the export of coffee during this calendar year so far has been all time high at 131,842 tonnes. Therefore, there is no loss suffered in terms of foreign exchange earning due to these restrictions.

Government had received memoranda from various Growers' Associations requesting to remove the curbs on export of coffee. These memoranda were considered on merit and recently, the Government have relaxed the ceiling for exports and enhanced it by 10,000 tonnes for the current calendar year. A liberal approach has also now