

Gir Lions

1544. **Shri Virendrakumar Shah:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the population of Gir Lions, which is a great attraction to the foreign tourists, is fast diminishing;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to maintain the population of Gir Lions?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Ananashib Shinde): (a) No, Sir. It is not a fact that the population of Gir Lions is fast diminishing.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The State Government of Gujarat have taken the following steps in this regard:—

- (i) An area of about 1,26,501 hectares (3,12,459.11 acres) of the Gir forests is a Wild Life Sanctuary from 18-9-1965.
- (ii) The shooting of all the species is prohibited in the Sanctuary area.
- (iii) In order to discourage the poisoning of lions by local cattle owners, whose cattle are occasionally killed by the lions, the State Government have under the rules provided for the payment of compensation to persons whose cattle are so killed.

Ropeway at Girnar

1545. **Shri Virendrakumar Shah:** Will the Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme to build a ropeway at Girnar, Junagadh has been submitted to Government;

(b) whether any private agency has agreed to bear entire expenditure of this project provided necessary foreign exchange is sanctioned; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

The Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation (Dr. Karan Singh): (a) and (b). No such proposal has been received recently. However, a request from Shri Nanji Kalidas of Porbunder to assist in the issue of an import licence for importing ropeway machinery to be installed at Girnar was received through the Government of Gujarat in June 1962.

(c) Since the foreign exchange liability of the scheme amounted to about Rs. 12 lakhs, it was not found possible to accede to the request of Shri Nanji Kalidas for the issue of an import licence.

Judgment of Supreme Court on Fundamental Rights

1546. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri N. S. Sharma:
Shri Kam Singh Ayarwal:
Shri Sharda Nand:
Shri Brij Bhushan Lal:
Shri Sradhakar Supakar:
Shri N. R. Laskar:
Shri George Fernandes:
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:
Shri A. B. Vajpayee:
Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri K. S. Vidyarthi:
Shri Jam Krishan Gupta:
Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:

Will the Minister of Law be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 27 on the 21st March, 1967 and state:

(a) whether Government have since considered the judgment of the Supreme Court regarding Fundamental Rights; and

(b) if so, the decision taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri D. B. Chavan): (a) and (b). The implications of the Supreme Court judgment are still under active consideration of Government.

High Prices of Russian Tractors

1547. Shri S. M. Bamerjee:
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:
Shri Y. S. Kuswaha:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are serious complaints against the Indian Engineering and Commercial Corporation Pvt. Ltd., Bombay, regarding the supply of Russian tractors at high prices;

(b) if so, whether any complaint has been lodged against this concern by the Madhya Pradesh Government; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to inquire into these charges?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasaheb Shinde): (a) and (b). Some complaints have been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

(c) The State Trading Corporation is enquiring into the matter.

Development of Bajra and Jawar varieties in Rajasthan

1548. Dr. Karni Singh:
Shrimati Nirlep Kaur:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposals to undertake research to develop bajra and jawar varieties which are tolerant to saline water in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, when these proposals are likely to be put into implementation?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasaheb Shinde): (a) At present Government have no proposal to undertake research on the production of Jawar and Bajra varieties tolerant to same water in Rajasthan.

(b): Does not arise.

Central Arid Zone Research Institute Jodhpur

1549. Dr. Karni Singh:
Shrimati Nirlep Kaur:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Arid Zone Research Institute at Jodhpur propose to set up a new unit to take up saline water conversion into portable water;

(b) if so, the place where the unit will be located; and

(c) the areas which would be covered by this unit?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasaheb Shinde): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Documentary Film of Places of Tourist Interest

1550. Dr. Karni Singh:
Shrimati Nirlep Kaur:

Will the Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to make documentary films on Bikaner, Jaisalmer and Kotah with a view to popularise these historical cities as places of tourist interest as has been done in the case of Jaipur, Udaipur, Chittorgarh and Jodhpur; and

(b) the steps taken to promote tourism in these areas which have so much to offer to tourists?