

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

(a) A seven member fact-finding delegation under the leadership of Secretary, Export Production, in the Ministry of Commerce, visited the principal jute markets of United States of America and Canada from 10th to 21st February, 1975.

(b) The delegation has reported that the recent decline in demand for jute goods in these countries is primarily due to the growing competition from synthetic substitutes. Recession in the building industry has also contributed to the fall in demand there. Position of exports is expected to improve by 1976, provided effective measures are taken now itself for counter-acting the competition from the synthetics.

Steps taken by M.M.T.C. to reduce congestion at ports

**6057. SHRI SHARAD YADAV:
PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:
SHRI SHANKER RAO
SAVANT:**

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the metals stock have piled up in various major ports and the port authorities have warned the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation to remove the same; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation to reduce the congestion at ports?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):
(a) No, Sir. No stocks are held up in the premises of the port authorities.

(b) Does not arise.

Development works at airports in Karnataka

6058. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the broad outlines of development works Government have undertaken at various airports in Karnataka during the last three years; and

(b) the total amount sanctioned for the purpose and spent so far?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b). The Information required is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Scheme to develop weekend picnic spots in Karnataka

6059. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme in the Central Sector to develop weekend picnic spots near towns and cities of Karnataka;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) if not, whether any such scheme is proposed to be formulated to suit people belonging to low income groups?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As the development of facilities for home tourists is primarily the responsibility of State Government, the development of picnic spots near towns and cities would come within the purview of the State Government.