

(a) whether Census Office of the Government of India has conducted any survey to obtain information regarding the number of denotified (Vimukta Caste) Gypsies and Half-Gypsy communities; and

(b) if not, whether any steps will be taken to conduct such a survey by the Centre so that adequate ground can be prepared for formulating schemes for the social and economic development of these communities?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS  
(S. BUTA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) There is no such proposal

[English]

#### Assistance to MPEDA members

5541. SHRI R. S. MANE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amounts spent by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) on fairs in the last three years, yearwise;

(b) whether it is a fact that a major portion of subsidies is granted to the companies in which the members of MPEDA are share-holders or have a direct economic interest;

(c) the amounts granted as loans, subsidies or any form of financial assistance to marine product companies in which their (MPEDA) members have a direct or indirect interest; and

(d) whether Government will scrutinise such allotments by MPEDA and eliminate self-serving schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R.  
DAS MUNSI) : (a) The amounts spent by  
the MPEDA on fairs in the last three years

were :

Year	Rs. lakhs
1983-84	6.08
1984-85	7.02
1985-86	12.87

(b) No, Sir. The share of subsidies granted by the MPEDA to the Companies in which the members of MPEDA are share-holders or have a direct economic interest in negligible i.e. less than 5 per cent yearly.

(c) MPEDA gives only subsidy assistance and does not provide loans. The amounts of subsidy given by MPEDA to such companies during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 were Rs. 1.35 lakhs, Rs. 2.58 lakhs and Rs. 4.71 lakhs respectively.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Raw material for leather industry

5542. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Leather Research Institute, Madras, ordered a national survey to assess the raw material availability for the leather industry;

(b) if so, the findings of the survey; and

(c) the follow up action taken so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R.  
DAS MUNSI) : (a) to (c). Report of All India Survey on Hides and Skins conducted by the Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI) has not yet been received.

#### Awarding of new contracts to M/s Indian molasses Co. By STC

5543. SHRI AJITSINH DABHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether during the pendency of enquiry regarding alleged malpractices in the export of molasses by M/s Indian Molasses

Company and its sister concerns, the State Trading Corporation has awarded new contracts/extended the old contracts to the aforesaid company and her sister concerns;

(b) if so, the details of such contracts, commodity-wise; and

(c) the value of such contracts ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) :** (a) to (c). An enquiry is being conducted regarding alleged malpractices in export of molasses. M/s Indian Molasses Co (IMC) and its sister concern were handling agents of STC for these exports. There is no export of molasses since July, 1985.

For imported edible oils, fatty acids, and methanol, storage capacity has been hired from this group. STC hires these capacities on a long-term basis after assessing its requirements and availability. To meet its requirements for short term, it also hires suitable capacities for a few months. Storage capacity both short and long term on hire from this Group as on 31.3.87 was 75,047 MTs. Out of this, contracts for a capacity of 33,603 MTs which were on long-term hire, have expired during the year but the capacity continues to be used by STC. Since a number of long term contracts have expired including those of this Group, as an interim measure STC is using these capacities till new contracts on long term hiring of capacities are finalised by it on all India basis.

The contracts for edible oils are at Rs. 7.50-13.00 per MT per month of rental plus handling charges, and for fatty acids at Rs. 25/- per MT per month of rental plus handling charges. For methanol, the charges including rental are Rs. 50/- per MT per month.

#### Tourist spots in Gujarat

5544. **SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :**  
**SHRI AMARSINH**  
**RATHAWA :**

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state ;

(a) the schemes of India Tourism Development Corporation for the development of tourist spots in the country and particularly in Gujarat during the year 1986-87;

(b) the names of the tourist spots in Gujarat which have been developed during this period;

(c) the number of foreign tourists who visited Gujarat during the year 1986-87; and

(d) the names of the tourist spots in Gujarat which attract foreign tourist and the steps being taken to develop them ?

**THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SYED) :** (a) ITDC during the Seventh Five Year Plan does not envisage any new schemes. However, the following important 'on-going' projects are presently under implementation by the ITDC :

- Hotel at Gulmarg
- Expansion of Hotel Kalinga Ashok, Bhubaneswar
- Expansion and conversion of the existing Travellers' Lodge at Bodhgaya into a hotel
- Expansion of Laxmi Vilas Palace Hotel Udaipur
- Six joint venture projects located at Guwahati, Puri, Bhopal, Ranchi, Pondicherry and Itanagar.

(b) During 1986-87, the Ministry of Tourism sanctioned highway facilities at Ankleshwar for Rs. 35.84 lakhs with a release of Rs. 10.00 lakhs and mini buses for Sasangir for Rs. 13.00 lakhs with a release of Rs. 11.70 lakhs.

(c) As per information available from the State Government, the number of foreign tourists who visited Gujarat during 1986 is 13,032.

(d) The Central Government in consultation with the Government of Gujarat has identified the following places for development of tourist infrastructure with the joint resources of Centre, State and private sector subject