DAS MUNSI): Based on the earlier export trend, the likely loss of foreign exchange on account of discontinuing export of froglegs will be around Rs. seven to eight crores.

#### Tourist complex at Agra

# 5583. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a proposal for development of a tourist complex and sporting spots in Agra;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action being taken or proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SYED): No. Sir.

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

#### Implementation of Assam Accord

5584. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA:
SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA
REDDY:
SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Chief Minister of Assam recently met the Prime Minister and discussed about implementation of Assam Accord; and
- (b) if so, what further steps are being taken by Union Gevernment to complete the process of implementation of the Accord?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Chief Minister of Assam had met

the Prime Minister on 3.3.1987 and discussed with him, interalla the implementation of the Assam Accord.

(b) The Government have all along been committed to fulfil their obligations under the Assam Accord and have been actively working towards this end.

#### Trade between India and China

#### 5585. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA: SHRI S. M. GURADDI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that China is reported to continue an open door economic policy encouraging foreign investment and setting up of joint ventures;
- (b) if so, its impact on India's policy towards China in this regard; and
- (c) to what extent the India-China trade will be improved further?

THE MINITER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). We are making efforts to increase our exports to China and it is hoped that India-China trade will grow and be intensified, diversified and balanced.

## Export performance of engineering companies

5586. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA: SHRI G S. BASAVARAJU:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to take action against leading engineering companies which do not come up to expectations on the export front; and
- (b) if so, the nature of the proposed action?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R.

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DAS MUNSI): (a) There is no such proposal but Government is constantly interacting with the Engineering Export Promotion Council and other agencies to further boost the engineering export in general as well as to examine the cases of non-performing units in particular.

#### (b) Does not arise.

#### 'Marine Park' along Kerala coast

5587. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a proposal to set up a 'Marine Park' along the coast of Kerala to promote tourism;
- (b) if so, the location recommended for this purpose;
- (c) whether a Marine Park is intended to be set up in any Other coastal State; if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether there are any proposals to start cruiser along or from the coast of Zerala to promote tourism there; and
- (e) the decision taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF **TOURISM** (MUFTI MOHD. SYED): (a) At present, there is no such proposal under the consideration of the Central Ministry of Tourism.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No. Sir.
- (d) Yes. Sir.
- (e) The Central Ministry of Tourism Tias plans to provide financial assistance to the Government of Kerala for starting luxury cruises from Kovalam and Cochin.

### Transport problems faced by tourists/ visitors at Indian Airports

5588. SHRI T. BALA GOUD: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government are aware of the problems facing visitors and foreign tourists at all Indian Airports due to harassment by Taxi drivers and other transport operators:
- (b) whether any report in this regard has been received from the tourist officers on duty at various airports:
  - (c) if so, action taken thereon; and
- (d) the nature of duties performed by tourist officers at various Airports?

THE MINISTER OF **TOURISM** (MUFTI MOHD. SYED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Some complaints have been received by the tourist officers at Madras and Bombay Airports. The question regarding harassment by Taxi Drivers at International Airports has been discussed in the Airports Coordination Committee. To prevent such harassment, prepaid taxi services have been introduced at Delhi and Bombay Airports. This scheme enables the passengers to pre-pay the taxi charges to the traffic police counter at the Airport and obtain a voucher for the same. This obviates any harassment by the taxi Driver at the end of the journey. Steps to introduce similar taxi service at Calcutta and Madras Airports are in progress.

The specific complaints regarding harassment by taxi drivers are looked into by the State Traffic/Police authorities.

(d) The nature of duties of the Information Assistants normally referred to by the public as tourist officers include disseminating tourist information pertaining to places of tourist attractions including giving information on Indian Airlines flights, rail timings, and assisting with securing hetel accommodation, transport and other facilities. The tonrist officers also keep close liaison with other agencies at the airport such as immigration, customs, security and health. The primary role of these officers is to provide assistance to both foreign and domestic tourists.