

(a) the total accumulated loss incurred by the Corporation as on 31-12-1987;

(b) whether Cotton Corporation of India has sought permission to capitalise about 75 per cent of its accumulated loss; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The loss suffered by Cotton Corporation of India up to one year ending 31.8.86 was Rs. 118.89 crores. Losses as on 31-12-1987 cannot be known at this stage.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Accelerated implementation of tourism projects

5593. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have issued any guidelines to State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations to ensure accelerated implementation of tourism projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the State Governments thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SYED) : (a) to (c) The Central Ministry of Tourism has been continuously urging all State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to ensure accelerated implementation of tourism projects. The need to expedite the tourism projects was also stressed during the meeting of Secretaries of Tourism and Managing Directors of Tourism Development Corporations from States and Union Territories held on 26th and 27th February, 1987. There has been a good response from the State Governments/Union Territories.

Tourist places in Orissa

5594. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have identified the places of tourist importance in Orissa for development during Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SYED) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. No specific tourist centres have been identified for development during the Seventh Five Year Plan. Development of tourist infrastructure is an on-going process, and proposals received from the State Governments are examined and considered subject to availability of funds and inter-se-priorities.

Export of fish

5595. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether fish export has increased in 1986-87;

(b) if so, to what extent as compared to the preceding year and the countries to which fish is being exported at present;

(c) whether there is vast scope for increasing the export of fish; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to increase the export of fish ?

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

(b) The quantity of fish and fish products exported during 1986-87 (April '86 to January '87) was 71918 tonnes valued at Rs. 390.65 crores, as compared to the quantity of 65418 tonnes valued at Rs. 314.63 crores, exported during the corresponding period of 1985-86. Major countries to which these were exported are

Japan, USA, U. K., Srilanka, Netherlands, UAE, Belgium, Singapore, France, Malaysia, Australia, Kuwait, Spain, Italy and Greece. (Source : MPEDA)

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Steps being taken in this regard include—promotion of prawn farming for augmenting production of cultured prawns, encouragement of production of value-added items like IQF, setting up of prawn hatcheries and measures for exploitation of deep sea fishery resources.

Import of sophisticated looms

5596. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-
NAIK : Will the Minister of TEXTILES
be pleased to State :

(a) whether Government have a proposal
to import sophisticated looms;

(b) if so, the country from which
such sophisticated looms are proposed to be
imported;

(c) the cost of those sophisticated
looms; and

(d) the details of the proposal of National
Textile Corporation with regard to the
import of sophisticated looms ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM
NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (d). National
Textile Corporation entered into a contract
with USSR on 17-4-86 for import of 200
shuttleless Russian Looms at a cost of
Rs. 5,21,20,000/-.

Export of alumina to Bahrain

5597. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-
NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE
be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to export
alumina to Bahrain;

(b) whether some negotiations have been
made in that direction;

(c) if so, the total quantum of alumina
proposed to be exported to Bahrain and
from when;

(d) whether Government propose to
export alumina from the newly set up
alumina plant in Orissa; and

(e) if so, the expected time of commer-
cial production of that plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R.
DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.
Bahrain is one of the countries identified
as a possible buyer of NALCO's alumina.
Contacts have been established and
preliminary discussions have been held be-
tween NALCO and the Aluminium Company
of Bahrain in this regard.

(c) No firm contract has been finalised.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Alumina plant of NALCO is
expected to go into production during the
third quarter of 1987.

Composition of Spices Board

5598. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY :
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be
pleased to state :

(a) the names of the members of the
Spices Board constituted recently; and

(b) the criteria for the appointment
of the members of the Spices Board ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R.
DAS MUNSI) : (a) Copy of the notification
indicating the names of the members is
enclosed.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4279/87.]

(b) The members of the Spices Board
have been appointed in terms of the various
provisions of the Spices Board Act, 1986
as indicated in the notification enclosed.