

programme, laying out of demonstration plots, taking up of plant protection measures, etc. The outlay for these programmes during 1987-88 is Rs. 150 lakhs including the share of the State Governments. Besides, the farmers also avail of loans from the banks for cashew cultivation.

Utilisation of Funds for Promotion of Tourism in Kerala

7956. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the utilisation of the Rs. 10.5 lakhs allocation that was made by Union Government for promotion of tourism in Kerala during 1986-87;

(b) how Union Government monitor or supervise the utilisation of funds allocated by the States for the promotion of tourism each year;

(c) the total allocation for 1987-88 made for tourism development in Kerala;

(d) whether any specific projects have been suggested by Union Government for Kerala this year; and

(e) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SYED): (a) In 1986-87, the Central Ministry of Tourism sanctioned an amount of Rs. 141.44 lakhs for the following tourism schemes in Kerala:-

1. Watersports at Kovalam
2. Provision of Trekking Equipment
3. Yatri Niwas at Quilon
4. Beach Resort at Kappad
5. Yatri Niwas at Trivandrum
6. Forest Lodge at Parambikulam

(b) The Central Ministry of Tourism does not monitor or supervise the utilisation of funds allocated by the States

for the promotion of tourism.

(c) The Central Ministry of Tourism does not allocate funds Statewise but schemewise.

(d) The Central Ministry of Tourism does not suggest specific projects for States. Financial assistance is given on the basis of the proposals received from the State Governments.

(e) Does not arise.

Penal Duty on Indian Engineering Exports

7957. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have worked out a scheme to ensure that Indian engineering exports do not attract penal duty provisions abroad;

(b) whether the scheme was introduced in view of the reported move by the US authorities to impose countervailing duty on Indian exports; and

(c) so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) to (c). In framing schemes for export incentives and promotion, Government takes into account international norms and rules as accepted by us, with a view to ensuring that the chances of levy of antidumping and countervailing duties on our exports by Governments of the importing countries are minimised. This is a general policy followed by the Government and is not related to any countervailing duty imposed by U.S. on Indian export.

Losing Shrimp Market in Japan

7958. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: SHRI S.M. GURADDI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be

pleased to state:

(a) whether India is fast losing Japanese shrimp market due to stiff competition from other shrimp exporting countries;

(b) if so, whether Japan accounts for nearly 72 per cent of India's shrimp exports; and

(c) if so, the main reason for India's losing Japanese market and what efforts are being made to capture the market in Japan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) to (c). Japan's import of shrimp has gone up to meet their increasing demand. India has not been able to maintain its share on account of stagnant shrimp production. The total imports by Japan, imports from India and share thereof is given below:-

Year	Japanese import (in tonnes)	Imports from India (in tonnes)	India's share
1983	148628	36912	24.84%
1984	169080	38498	22.77%
1985	182912	36235	19.81%
1986	212805	36727	17.26%

During this period, some shrimp exporting countries like Taiwan were able to step up their supplies to Japan due to their successful shrimp culture operations and meet the increasing demand for shrimps in Japan.

Japan continued to be the principal market for Indian shrimps, accounting for about 74.6 % of India's shrimp exports in terms of value.

Efforts being made to capture the market in Japan include promotion of shrimp farming for augmenting production of cultured shrimps, setting up of prawn hatcheries, promotional efforts through the Trade Promotion Office of MPEDA in

Tokyo, regular participation by MPEDA in the leading Food Fair in Japan and inviting Japanese buyers and Seafood delegation to India.

(Source: MPEDA, Cochin)

Trade Gap between India and Soviet Union

7959. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and the Soviet Union have decided to take a number of urgent measures to bridge the widening trade gap; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the main reasons for widening trade gap between India and the Soviet Union?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b). The Indo-Soviet balance of trade which fluctuates from time to time has been for some time now in favour of India mainly due to the lesser generation of rupee resources in favour of the USSR arising from the decline in prices of crude oil and oil products. Both the countries are taking steps to diversify the structure of trade in order to stabilise the trade and increase the volume of trade. New items have been added in the Indo-Soviet Trade Plan for 1987 for imports into India such as coking coal, abrasive goods, selenium, antimony, soda ash, xyelene, PVC, Polystyrene, sawn goods, wood pulp, waste paper, raw hides, etc. Even in respect of existing items, increases have been provided for in respect of imports into India of items such as crude oil, newsprint, synthetic rubber, methanol, polyethelene, fertilizers, rolled steel products, etc. Apart from conventional exchange of trade, other forms of cooperation such as production cooperation, joint ventures, setting up of projects in the USSR by Indian firms, etc. are being explored. Participation in trade fairs/generalised exhibitions, buyers-sellers meetings, exchange of commercial and business delegations and institutional arrangements for promoting contacts