

Year	Number of tourists			Total
	Vaishnodevi and Amarnath	Ladakh	Kashmir Valley	
1994	3742945	17288	9814	3770047
1995	4092127	17985	8498	4118610

There are no estimates available on the income generated from tourism industry in the State.

(c) The steps taken to develop tourism in the State include identification and development of new resorts in Jammu and Ladakh Divisions of the State and its wide publicity through media campaigns.

[English]

Stoppage of Import of Gold by MMTC

500. SHRI SHANKERSINH VEGHELA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation has requested his Ministry for the stoppage of import of gold under the baggage rules;

(b) if so, the basis on which this demand has been raised when the price of gold in the domestic market is soaring day by day;

(c) whether his Ministry has studied the proposal; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE. (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) No, Sir, this Ministry has not received any such request from the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation.

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above, question does not arise.

International Airport at Bhubaneswar

501. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to declare any new airport as international airport in India;

(b) if so, whether Bhubaneswar airport has recently been announced to be made an international airport;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the total funds allocated for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) At present, there is no proposal to declare any new airport as international airport.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) and (d) Bhubaneswar airport is being developed as a Model Airport at a cost of Rs.29.50 crores. Limited

International operations can also take place, whenever necessary.

Violation of Fera Law

502. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN :
DR. S.P. YADAV :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of violation of FERA by Zee TV by entering into an agreement with the STC for promoting the goods of manufactures having potential to export in the export market besides advertising these on Zee TV; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Enquiries in the matter have been initiated.

Import Restrictions Under W.T.O.

503. SHRI RABI RAY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Trade Organisation has asked the Union Government to furnish a list of products on which it maintains quantitative import restrictions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the list is likely to be provided to W.T.O. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) According to the Decision on Notification Procedures for Quantitative Restrictions adopted by the Council for Trade in Goods of the World Trade Organization on December 1, 1995, all Members are required to make complete notifications of the quantitative restrictions which they maintain by January 31, 1996 and at two yearly intervals thereafter, and to notify changes to their quantitative restrictions as and when these changes occur. In parallel, the Committee on Balance of Payments Restrictions of the World Trade Organization adopted in its Report on the Consultations with India on 6th and 8th December 1995 that consultations will be resumed with India in October, 1996, and that India would notify to the W.T.O. all remaining restrictions maintained for balance of payments purposes soon after the announcement of 1996-97 Export-Import Policy. These notification obligations are proposed to be met with by India soon after the announcement of any changes during 1996-97 in the Export Import Policy (1992-97).

Sick Textile Mills

504. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI :
SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sick textile mills, the number of

mills which are on the verge of closure and the number of mills which have already been closed down in the country as on date, State-wise;

(b) the number of workers working these mills; and

(c) the steps taken by the Govt. to remove the problems of closure and sickness being faced by the workers and the mill owners of this Sector ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) As on 30.6.95 there were 278 textile mills registered with Board for industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) as Sick. As on 31.12.95, no Cotton/Man-made Fibre Textile Mill is closed under I.D. Act. 128 mills are temporarily closed due to financial difficulties lockouts and strikes and 36 mills are closed under Official Liquidation.

Statement-I showing mills registered with BIFR is attached and Statement-II showing number of cotton/man-made fibre textile mills closed is also attached.

(b) No. of workers affected due to closure of these 164 mills is 216566 as on 31.12.95.

(c) Govt. has set up BIFR to enquire into the working of sick industrial companies and to prepare and sanction as appropriate, Schemes for revival of mills.

STATEMENT-I

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstd. Qus. No.504 for 1.3.96

There were 278 mills registered with BIFR as on 30.6.95. The State-wise figures are given below :

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	No. of mills
1.	Bihar	3
2.	West Bengal	12
3.	Orissa	4
4.	Uttar Pradesh	33
5.	Delhi	2
6.	Punjab	5
7.	Haryana	9
8.	Chandigarh	1
9.	Rajasthan	14
10.	Gujarat	57
11.	Maharashtra	53
12.	Madhya Pradesh	14
13.	Andhra Pradesh	14
14.	Karnataka	15
15.	Tamil Nadu	32
16.	Kerala	5
17.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2
18.	Assam	3
Total		278

STATEMENT-II

Cotton-Man-made Fibre Textile Mills closed under ID Act/Under Liquidation etc. as on 31.12.95

Sl. No.	State	Under I.D.Act	Under Liquid	Otherwise closed	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	10	10
2.	Assam	0	0	1	1
3.	Bihar	0	0	1	1
4.	Gujarat	0	23	23	46
5.	Haryana	0	0	3	3
6.	Karnataka	0	2	8	10
7.	Kerala	0	0	1	1
8.	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	8	8
9.	Maharashtra	0	7	11	18
10.	Orissa	0	0	1	1
11.	Rajasthan	0	1	3	4
12.	Tamil Nadu	0	3	38	41
13.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	13	13
14.	West Bengal	0	0	7	7
Total		0	36	128	164

Position of Balance of Payment

505. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

The present position of the balance of payment in comparison to the corresponding figure of the last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : Balance of Payments data for 1995-96 are not yet available. Information available on leading indicators points to a widening of the trade deficit, according to the provisional data of the DGCI&S, from US \$ 2, 011 million in April-December 1994 to US \$ 3,535 million in April-December 1995. Exports rose by 24.1 per cent in US dollar terms during the first nine months of 1995-96, while imports increased by 29.3 per cent during the same period. Nevertheless, with the continuing support from invisibles, the current account deficit for the year 1995-96 as a whole is expected to be around 1.5 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) which is sustainable.

India's foreign exchange reserves comprising foreign currency assets of the Reserve Bank of India, gold and SDR balances declined from US \$ 25,186 million at the end of March 1995 to US \$ 20,634 million on February 16, 1996. During the corresponding period of 1994-95, the foreign exchange reserves had increased by US \$ 3,163 million.