

[English]

Tourism Policy

26. PROF. VIJAYKUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have studied the existing tourism policy and its implementation;

(b) whether any changes are proposed in order to accelerate the pace of development of tourism in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) to (c). The Government has recently completed a comprehensive review of tourism policy in the light of recommendations of the National Committee on Tourism. A number of measures have been initiated by the Government to accelerate the pace of development of tourism in the country. These include :

(i) a package of incentives for attracting private investment in the tourism sector,

(ii) setting up of a Tourism Finance Corporation for meeting the loan requirements of tourism industries,

(iii) launching of a scheme called 'Assistance for the Development of International Tourism' (ADIT) for providing market-

ing assistance to private entrepreneurs,

(iv) liberalisation of charter policy,

(v) introduction of air taxi services and rent-a-car scheme,

(vi) strengthening of overseas marketing efforts by advertising through print and electronic media in major tourist generating markets,

(vii) strengthening of training infrastructure for the development of human resources to meet the man-power requirements of the sector.

[Translation]

Gold Reserves

27. SHRI HUKAMDEV NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether gold is kept in reserve in the Government treasury; and

(b) if so, the details of the total quantity and value of such gold kept there during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANAVATE): (a) Gold reserves are kept with the Reserve Bank of India.

(b) The quantity and value of gold reserve with the Reserve Bank of India are given below:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Quantity in fine grammes</i>	<i>Value at the rate of 0.118489 fine grammes per Rupee</i>
1987	324,988,830.56748	Rs. 274,27,76,380.65
June 1988	—do—	—do—
June 1989	—do—	—do—
June		