

[Translation]

Achievement under 20-Point Programme in Rajasthan, Gujarat and U. P.

3440. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN :
SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN
SINHA :

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether a statement showing details of the achievements made and targets achieved under the 20-Point Programme in Rajasthan, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh will be laid on the Table of the House;

(b) the extent to which success has been achieved in removing poverty under the said programme and the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to bring about radical changes in the 20-Point programme and in its main programme of removal of poverty during the Seventh Five Year Plan and if so, the outlines of the amended programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Three statements showing targets and achievements under the 20-Point Programme in Rajasthan, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh for the three years 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 are laid on the Table of the House.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1418/85]

(b) As per the NSSO Survey (32nd Round) 1977-78, the revised estimate of persons below the poverty line was 307 million or 48.3 per cent of the population in 1977-78. According to the NSSO Survey (38th Round) 1983, the provisional estimate of people below the poverty line is 271 million or 37.4 per cent of the population, in 1983-84. This is the total estimate and information about the impact specifically of the 20-Point Programme on poverty is not available.

(c) The restructuring of the 20-Point Programme, particularly the Programme for removal of poverty, during the Seventh Five Year Plan is under consideration.

[English]

Construction of Dry Dock Project in Bombay Harbour

3441. SHRI S. M. GURADDI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Environment have any complaint against the construction of dry dock in the Bombay Harbour;

(b) if so, the details of complaints;

(c) whether any objection was raised against this proposal by the Bombay Environmental Action Group;

(d) what was the objection of this Group; and

(e) whether Government have considered the objection ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The location of the Dry Dock was objected to because of the likelihood of pollution due to dock operations, congestion in the area and proximity of Elephanta Island.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The Group was against mooring of the Dry Dock near the Elephanta Island since that would degrade the natural environment of the area. The Group had also mentioned that no construction activities related to the Dry Dock operation should be allowed on Elephanta Island.

(e) Yes, Sir.

Reduction of Import Duty on Computer Components

3443. SHRI P. R. KUMARMANGALAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the basis on which the total duty on computers which includes both auxiliary and additional duty has been reduced to 200 per cent from 240 per cent specially when the average consolidated import duty on parts, components and peripherals of an indigenously manufactured computer works out to

around 100 per cent; and

(b) if so, whether any steps are being considered to correspondingly reduce the duties on import of computer components being used by computer manufacturers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Following the announcement of the General Budget on March 17, 1985 the tariff rate of Ch. 84.5/55 (2) of Custom Tariff Act was changed from 100 per cent to 200 per cent. This rate applied to computers also. Thus the effective custom duty on computers became 24 per cent (i.e. 200 per cent basic duty and 40 per cent auxiliary duty). No countervailing duty is involved in such cases since the excise duty on indigenously manufactured computer has been totally waived. It was however felt that a lower rate of customs duty would be sufficient to protect the indigenous industry for mini, midi and maxi range of computers, as the customs duty on imported components, parts and other imports for manufacture of computers worked out to be only about 50 per cent to 60 per cent on an average. On this basis, the basic duty of 200 per cent was reduced to 160 per cent and thus the effective duty was reduced to 200 per cent, which became effective with the announcement of the import-export policy 1985-86, whereby import of computers of value less than Rs. 10 lakhs CIF had been permitted under the provision of Open General Licence.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation].

ITDC Hotels for Middle and Lower Class People

3444. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of I.T.D.C. Hotels which cater to the needs of the people of the middle and lower class and the places where these are situated; and

(b) whether the number of such hotels is very small and if so, whether Government propose to open more hotels meant for persons belonging to the middle and lower class ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) Presently ITDC is operating hotels/travellers lodges at the following 10 locations suiting to the needs of middle and lower class people :

1. Ashok Yatri Niwas, New Delhi.
2. Travellers Lodge at Kushinagar
3. Travellers Lodge at Bodhgaya
4. Travellers Lodge at Tiruchirapalli
5. Travellers Lodge at Thanjavur
6. Travellers Lodge at Konarak
7. Travellers Lodge at Kancheepuram
8. Travellers Lodge at Kulu
9. Travellers Lodge at Bijapur
10. Travellers Lodge at Manali

(b) In order to provide economy class accommodation for tourists, ITDC is constructing 1/2-Star hotels in collaboration with the State Corporations at Pondichery and Itanagar. It is proposed to construct Yatri Niwases and low-class budget accommodation jointly with the State Governments. Bharatiya Yatri Avas Vikas Samiti, a registered society working under the aegis of the Department of Tourism, is constructing Yatrikas (Dharamshalas/Sarais) at selected places. The State Governments have also been requested to draw up plans to provide infrastructure for low-budget domestic tourists.

Allocation for Growth of Forestry

3445. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the amounts of funds allocated by the Centre to different States for conservation and growth of forests in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether the work of afforestation it not being undertaken properly; and