

[English]

Celebration of Heritage week

4486. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to celebrate a Heritage week in every State ;

(b) whether Government have received any suggestions to prepare inventories of places of significance from the heritage point of view ; and

(c) whether these suggestions are proposed to be examined and considered for implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) There is no proposal under consideration at present.

(b) and (c). The Department of Culture has prepared a list of outstanding monuments and natural sites for inclusion in The World Heritage List.

“Water pollution in West Bengal due to discharge of chemical waste from Bangladesh Distillery”

4487. SHRI R.P. DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that regular discharge of chemical waste from Darshane Sugar and Distillery Mill of Bangladesh has been causing serious water pollution in several rivers namely Churni, Mathabhanga and Bhairab of West Bengal flowing in between the two countries for years ;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken up the matter with Bangladesh ;

(c) if so, the result thereof ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Local Level Committee of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission has decided to inspect the site and discuss the problem.

(d) Does not arise.

Prices of Colour TVs

4488. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that despite Government announcement that the prices of black and white and colour television sets will be brought down, the prices have not come down.

(b) what were the prices of above sets of various companies as on 1.1.1983, 1.1.1984 and 1.1.1985;

(c) how many black and white and colour television sets were manufactured in India and how many were imported during 1983, 1984 and 1985 and (upto 30.6.1985); and

(d) what steps have been taken to bring down prices ?

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) and (b). No, Sir. Department of Electronics did some sample survey about CTV prices in Delhi market in October, 1984 and March, 1985. According to that study the prices of CTV sets have come down between Rs. 500/- to Rs. 1,000/-per set. The prices of TV sets varies depending on the manufacturers,

models, place of sale, etc. The ex-factory price of colour TV sets produced in India varies approximately between Rs. 4,500/- to Rs. 7,000/- depending on features offered. The ex-factory price of 20" Black and white TV set is around Rs. 2,000/-. The ex-factory price of Electronics

Trade and Technology Development Corporation (ET&T)'s 14" Material Technology Brand Name (MTB) set is Rs. 1,250/-.

(c) Number of TVs manufactured for 1983, 1984 and 1985 is as under :—

	1983	1984	1985 (upto 30-6-1985)	
Black & white TV	6.6 Lakhs	10.0 Lakhs	7.0 Lakhs	} Estimated
Colour TV	50,000	2.8 Lakhs	2.2 Lakhs	

As far as import of TVs is concerned, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

(d) The steps being taken in this direction are given below :

- (i) Issuing industrial approvals liberally, without any upper limit on capacities so that economically viable level of production could be achieved and competition encouraged.
- (ii) Reducing Government levies like customs duty on imported raw materials/components, reduction in excise duty, etc.
- (iii) A high power TV Coordination Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Electronics is functioning with representation from Indian TV manufacturers Association, and Electronics Components Industries Association, to review and monitor the progress of manufacture of TV sets. The question of maximum price to be charged for a CTV set has been discussed in the various meetings of the above Committee. In the meeting of this Committee held on 16.8.1984, ITMA committed that from 15th October, 1984, cost of the CTV to the customer with all taxes

and one year guarantee in Delhi will not be more than Rs. 7500/- with electronic tuner and Rs.7000/-with turret tuner.

- (iv) Electronics Trade & Technology Development Corporation (ET&T), a public sector undertaking under the Department of Electronics, under their 'Material Technology Brand Name' (MTB) programme will provide help to industry to produce quality products at reasonable cost by supplying materials procured by them in bulk along with necessary technology. It is expected that CTVs manufactured under this scheme will be available at a price less than the price at which the CTVs are being sold in the market.
- (v) ET&T shall supply Colour Picture Tubes in adequate quantities to the various colour TV manufacturers.
- (vi) As a result of the discussions with Indian TV Manufacturers' Association, they have provided us the list of 6 members of their Association, who have agreed to sell their economy model Colour TV sets through Government distribution network, such as, co-operative societies, super

bazars etc. Action has been initiated by Department of Electronics.

With the above steps and the market forces operating, prices of some models of CTV sets have come down.

Outcome of Second round of Thimpu talks

4489. SHRI SANAT KUMAR
MANDAL :

SHRI B. V. DESAI :

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the outcome of the Second round of the Thimpu talks held during the second week of August, 1985 aimed at arriving at a political settlement of Sri Lanka's ethnic problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : The second round of Thimpu talks on the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka started on the 12th of August. The talks are under way and are not yet concluded.

Sales tax on hand-made safety matches in Delhi

4490. SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is no sales-tax on hand-made safety matches in Delhi ;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that crores of rupees worth safety matches go out of Delhi discreetly daily depriving the neighbouring States of their legitimate revenue such as sales-tax ;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal to levy sales tax on hand-made matches in Delhi too ; and

(d) if not, reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) There is no sales tax on handmade safety matches in Delhi.

(b) The Sales Tax Authorities are not aware of any large scale export of handmade safety matches from Delhi to neighbouring States.

(c) and (d). The Delhi Administration have informed that representations in this regard have recently been received by the Administration which are under their examination.

Plantation of all forest species of trees

4491. DR. K. G. ADIYODI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme to plant all the forest species of trees, region wise, so as to provide research and development of facilities for augmenting forestry in our country ; and

(b) details of action taken to protect Rose Wood and Sandal Wood plantations from getting extinct ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) There is no specific scheme in regard to planting of all forest tree species in a particular region. The tree species are selected with due regard to soil and climatic conditions suitable in each region. Tree species are planted under the afforestation programme according to the suitability of soil and climatic conditions in each region and these provide a base for forestry research and development in the sphere of afforestation.

(b) Rose wood and sandal wood are planted in areas where soil and climatic conditions are favourable. In the initial