

(a) whether the Advisory Committee contemplated under Section 4 of the Handlooms (Reservation of Article) for Production Act, 1985 has been constituted;

(b) if so, whether the said Committee has made any recommendations as articles to be reserved for exclusive production by Handloom; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Committee has submitted its Report containing the recommendations regarding list of items to be reserved for exclusive production in the handloom sector. The Report is under the consideration of the Government.

Import-Export ratio of Indian trade

213 SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the Import and Export ratio of Indian trade in 1985-86;

(b) the steps taken to minimise the gap between the exports and imports;

(c) the main goods that escalated the imports and the steps taken to reduce the imports; and

(d) the main goods of exports and the steps taken to encourage the export ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) According to the provisional data available, India's imports and exports during April-Sept., 1985 were Rs. 9141.63 crores and Rs. 5017.63 crores respectively, implying an Import-Export ratio of 9 : 5.

(b) to (d). According to the provisional data available, the principal items of India's exports which had shown increase during

April-Sept., 1985 as compared to April-Sept., 1984 include coffee; cashew kernels, vegetables and fruits (other than cashew kernels); marine products; rice; iron ore; cotton fabrics; readymade garments; leather and leather manufactures (excl. footwear); Gem and Jewellery; carpets hand-made; and Machinery and Transport Equipment.

Based on the provisional data available, the principal items of India's imports which had shown increase during April-Sept., 1985 as compared to April-Sept., 1984 include petroleum, petroleum products and related products; vegetable oils, fixed (Edible oils; Organic and inorganic chemicals; fertilizers manufactured; pearls, precious and semi-precious stones; Iron and steel; non-ferrous metals; and Machinery and transport equipment

Increasing our exports, diversifying our productive base, modernising our productive apparatus are some of the steps taken by the Government. Modification and periodic revision of our industrial and fiscal policies are also the additional steps taken from time to time. Efforts are also being made to step up our indigenous production of importables during the Seventh Five Year Plan period, particularly in the sphere of bulk imports.

Foreign tourists visited India in 1985

214. SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign tourists who visited India during 1985;

(b) their country-wise break-up;

(c) the average number of days spent in India by a foreign tourist; and

(d) the estimated earnings of foreign exchange on this account during the year ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) The number of foreign tourists who visited India during 1985 was 12,59,384 including the nationals of Pakistan and Bangladesh.

(b) The information is given in the attached statement.

(c) The average duration of stay of foreign tourists in India is about 28 days.

(d) Not yet available from the Reserve Bank of India.

Statement

Tourist arrivals in India by country of nationality 1985

Country of Nationality	Provisional estimates
1	2
North America	
Canada	24,940
U. S. A.	95,491
Total	120,431
Central and South America	
Argentina	1,088
Brazil	1,674
Mexico	1,841
Others	4,185
Total	8,788
Western Europe	
Austria	6,695
Belgium	6,193
Denmark	5,524
Finland	2,092
France	44,356
Federal Republic of Germany	42,850
Greece	1,925
Italy	22,094
Netherlands	13,391
Norway	2,678
Spain	7,951
Sweden	7,365
Switzerland	13,725
U. K.	119,678
Others	5,356
Total	301,873

1	2
Eastern Europe	
Czechoslovakia	921
U. S. S. R.	12,303
Yugoslavia	1,674
Others	12,553
Total	27,451
Africa	
Kenya	6,277
Mauritius	2,845
Nigeria	11,968
South Africa	3,682
Tanzania	4,268
Egypt	1,758
Others	11,131
Total	41,929
West Asia	
Lebanon	753
Persian Gulf Countries	55,989
Saudi Arabia	22,680
Others	15,400
Total	94,822
South Asia	
Afghanistan	6,361
Sri Lanka	73,313
Iran	23,936
Others	17,240
Total	120,850
South East Asia	
Indonesia	2,009
Malaysia	22,345
Philippines	3,348
Singapore	18,245
Thailand	6,360
Others	1,925
Total	54,232
East Asia	
Japan	30,798
Hong Kong	1,172
Others	7,281
Total	39,251

1	2
Australasia	
Australia	21,425
New Zealand	4,184
Others	1,088
Total	26,697
Stateless	
Total	836,908
Pakistan	150,126
Bangladesh	272,350
Total	422,476
Grand Total	1,259,384

Purchase of raw jute by Jute Corporation of India

215. SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantities of raw jute purchased by the Jute Corporation of India, State-wise during 1985 season and the average unit price paid therefor;

(b) the share of total raw jute production State-wise by the Jute Corporation of India;

(c) the average price charged by Jute Corporation of India for the raw supplied to jute mills; and

(d) whether the unit cost of a gunny bag has come down during 1985 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). A statement is attached.

(c). Average price for W-5 Grade jute of Assam origin charged by Jute Corporation of India for sale to National Jute Manufacturers Corporation under operation has worked out to Rs. 318/- per quintal.

(d). With the fall in raw jute price, the unit cost of gunny bag has come down from the second half of 1985.

Statement

(a) The total quantity of raw Jute purchased by the Jute Corporation of India, State-wise, during the current jute season 1985-86 up to 14.2.86, is as under :-

In bales of 180 kgs. each

State :	Procurement by Jute Corporation of India.	
	Commercial operation	Price Support operation
Assam	25,783	3,06,566
Bihar	8,453	3,66,690
West Bengal	88,660	15,61,132
Tripura	1,355	1,28,645
Andhra Pradesh	—	63,973
Orissa	9,634	83,313
Meghalaya	556	16,666
Uttar Pradesh	—	6,129
Total :	1,34,441	25,33,114

While commercial purchases were made within a price band of Rs. 25/- per quintal above support level, price support purchases were made at statutory minimum price fixed by Government for 1985-86 season, basic price being Rs. 215/- per quintal for W-5 Grade Ex-Assam.

(b) State-wise estimated production of jute and mesta during 1985-86 and quantity procured by Jute Corporation of India upto 14.2.86 is as under :-