

(b) if so, its details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SYED) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

High cost of Production of Spices

6333. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to higher cost of production, most of our spices get priced out of international markets ;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any step to reduce the cost of production of spices ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) No Sir. We continue to be leading exporters of spices like black pepper, ginger, turmeric etc. In cases of some spices our cost of production is, however, high.

(b) and (c) An integrated programme for Spices Development approved for the Seventh Plan period includes programme for producing and distributing planting materials of high yielding varieties and encouraging scientific cultivation which would reduce the cost of production of spices.

India-China Collaboration Projects

6334. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and China propose to set up some joint collaboration projects in either country ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) No such proposal is presently under the consideration of Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Staff problem in Paris ITDC Office

6335. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in 'Hindustan Times' dated 19th February, 1987 that a team from TFI, one of France's television channels, has been unable to come to India to shoot a wild life documentary because of the failure on the part of the Government Tourist Office in Paris to obtain the necessary authorisation ; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SYED.) : (a) and (b) The India Tourism Development Corporation does not have any office in Paris, although the Department of Tourism, Government of India has a Tourist Office at Paris for its Overseas Publicity Programmes.

A proposal had been received for the visit of the TV team "Le Monde on l'Inde at de l'Asia" in early February, 1987 and the matter was accordingly processed by Tourist Office Paris and the Department of Tourism. The party was immediately advised through Tourist Office, Paris to make available the necessary documents for issue of the authorisation. Since the requisite documents were not made available necessary authorisation could not be issued to them.

[Translation]

Development of Tipagarh Park in Maharashtra into Tourist Spot

6336. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any proposal to develop Tipagarh Park in Garchiroli district, Maharashtra into a tourist spot as this place abounds in flora and natural beauty ; and

(b) if so, the financial assistance to be given for the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SYED) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.