

(SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) There have been shortfalls in the fulfilment of quotas reserved for persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for appointment in Public Enterprises, particularly, in Class I and II categories. In the lower cases of III and IV, the utilisation is satisfactory.

(b) and (c). Formal directives on reservation of posts have been issued to the Public Enterprises. The rules require that the Chief Executive constantly exerts himself to ensure full utilisation of quotas and that maximum opportunities for employment are given to the Scheduled communities. The implementation of these directives is reviewed periodically at the highest level in Government. In all cases of shortfalls, the Government directly takes up with the concerned Chief Executive the measures required to be taken for achieving the quotas reserved for these communities.

मरा प्रदेस में "मीसा" बंदियों द्वारा जीव
बीमा निगम के प्रीमियम का भुगतान

5401. श्री फूलचन्द वर्मा : क्या बिल तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार उन "मीसा" बंदियों के मामलों पर विचार कर रही है जो जेलों में बंद होने के कारण जीवन बीमा निगम के प्रीमियमों तथा सरकार के अन्य कर्जों का भुगतान नहीं कर सके और क्या उन्हें इस बारे में कोई सुविधा देने का विचार है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका व्यौरा क्या है ?

बिल तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मन्त्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क) और (ख) : माननीय सदस्यों ने जिस प्रकार के मामलों का उल्लेख किया है, उनके संबंध में सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है ?

Persons rendered Jobless in Government Offices

5402. SHRI KACHRULAL HEMRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons rendered jobless in Central Government offices at the centre and Central Government offices in the States in the name of economy drive; and

(b) the reaction of Government thereto and the steps taken to absorb these retrenched employees elsewhere?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

Creation of better conditions at places of Tourist interest in India

5403. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR DHARA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any attempt at the initiative of Government or otherwise has been made by Indian experts in Tourism to study the facilities, attractions and other amenities provided for tourists in countries where large number of tourists visit regularly, and advise Government to create similar or better conditions at places of tourist interest in our country;

(b) if so, the reasons for our tourist spots not being able to catch up tourist traffic in the desired manner; and

(c) the steps now proposed?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Although there is no regular programme of deputing Indian experts in tourism to study facilities abroad,

officers of the Central and State Departments of Tourism and the India Tourism Development Corporation have been deputed from time to time to undertake study tours abroad or to attend short tourism course/workshops/seminars which gives them an exposure to the measured being taken by other countries in developing and promoting tourism. This experience should enable them to make a more effective contribution to the Planning, improving and providing of tourist facilities in India.

(b) The flow of tourist traffic to India has been most encouraging, having registered an increase of 14.8 per cent as to figures for 1975, and an increase of 19.3 per cent during the first six months of 1977 in comparison to the corresponding period in 1976

(c) With a view to tap new tourist markets, and thereby further increase the flow of tourist traffic to India, it is proposed to open tourist offices at Teheran (Iran), Osaka (Japan), Bangkok (Thailand), Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), Perth and Melbourne (Australia). Further efforts are being made to diversify over tourist attractions so that the tourist traffic is spread over different regions of the country as far as feasible.

Export Targets of Jute and Jute Goods

5404. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR DHARA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) how far India has been able to maintain her export targets in so far as jute and jute goods are concerned;

(b) how far our country has been able to withstand the competition with other jute producing countries in the recent years; and

(c) further prospects of boosting up of our jute trade?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) to (c) Our exports of raw jute are only marginal and, therefore, no export targets have been set for them. As regards jute goods as against an export target of 5.7 lakh tonnes for 1976-77, the actual exports amounted to about 4.4 lakh tonnes. This was mainly due to competition from synthetic Substitutes and from other jute producing countries.

For meeting the situation, and for boosting up the prospects the following steps have been taken which are expected to improve our prospects in the foreign markets:-

(i) Export duty on all jute manufactureres has been abolished.

(ii) Liberal assistance is being granted for research and development, promotion of new end-uses of jute, diversification of products and reduction in the costs of production.

(iii) Some measures have also been taken to make export of jute goods more competitive in the foreign markets and more remunerative to manufacturers.

Vacation of Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi

5405. SHRI JOYTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maruti Aviation Ltd., a company under the control of Shri Sanjay Gandhi, son of erstwhile Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi, had asked the Indian Airlines through the Director General Civil Aviation, to vacate the Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi, so that the former could locate its central workshop there for the support of aircraft that it was selling to flying clubs, State Governments, Government Undertakings and Private Parties;