

(b) if so, the salient features thereof and the Government's opinion thereon; and

(c) how far this would help in giving employment to the unemployed in the country?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) FICCI has recently brought out a brochure entitled 'Policies for Economic Progress'.

(b) and (c) A statement giving the salient features of the suggestions contained in the brochure is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT 1252/77*]. It would be difficult to indicate precisely the impact of these policies on employment. The various suggestions received from institutions as well as individuals are taken into account while framing economic policy for different sectors of the economy.

Gold seized during raids from March, 1977

2418. SHRI MOHD. HAYAT ALI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of gold seized during raids conducted by the Gold Control officers in different States from March, 1977 till to date.

(b) whether it is a fact that in Calcutta the gold control officers have seized gold worth Rs. 1.80 lakhs from a house in the month of November, 1977; and

(c) what further measures Government propose to take to unearth

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House;

(b) Gold Control Officers of Calcutta on 4-11-77 seized unaccounted primary gold and new ornaments valued at Rs. 1,83,701 from the possession of a certified Goldsmith.

(c) Vigilance against violations of Gold Control Law continues to be maintained by the preventive and intelligence agencies.

Supply of additional quota of essential commodities to Mizoram

2419. DR. R. ROTHUAMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that most of the items of essential commodities like imported rapeseed oils etc. have never been supplied through public distribution systems in Mizoram and that the present per head quota of essential items supplied, like rice, edible oils, sugar, atta dals etc. are dangerously low to meet with the sudden rise in the daily requirement of the people due to coming Thingtam Famine resulting in complete failure of crops harvest this year throughout Mizoram; and

(b) in view of this Thingtam Famine which is occurring this year, whether any special preventive measures have been initiated or are proposed to be taken to tone up Public Distribution Systems throughout Mizoram to ensure steady supply of additional quantum of essential commodities so that anti-national elements do not exploit the critical situation caused by Food Scarcity as was done in 1960 giving rise to present underground movements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) It is not quite correct to say that there has been a complete

failure of crops this year throughout the Mizoram territory, as the damage arising from famine varies from area to area. The Mizoram Administration is aware of the situation and are taking steps to ensure that adequate quantities of rice and wheat are made available through the Public Distribution System, for which, supplies are assured by the Food Corporation of India. The possibilities of increasing rice ration from 2 Kg. per adult per week to 3 Kg. per adult per week, in the rural areas as in the case of urban areas, are under consideration. The quota of levy sugar in rural areas is also being enhanced from 300 gms. per capita per month to 425 gms. per capita per month effective from December, 1977. Although commodities like rapeseed oil are not covered under the Public Distribution System at present, these are generally available from the normal trade channels and the trade in these commodities is also being regulated as per the recent instructions of the Central Government.

(b) Measures have already been taken by the Administration to tone up public distribution centres and the budget provision has already been made to bring in additional quantities of food grains from Food Corporation of India. The Food Corporation of India has also been requested to keep their nearby godowns well-stocked to meet any eventuality. With the promulgation of Mizoram Pulses and Edible Oils Dealers Licensing Order, 1977, the Administration is contemplating regulating trade in these commodities, by appointing wholesalers and retailers, so that reasonable quantities could be brought into the Union Territory. For enabling the people in affected areas to have the purchasing capacity, relief works are being given to them.

Development of Gwalior and Gwalior region as tourist centre

2420. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the progress in detail on suggestions received by the Central Government regarding development of Gwalior and Gwalior Region as a tourist centre; and

(b) how much time will be taken to implement these suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) The Department of Tourism had received the following suggestions for the development of Gwalior and Gwalior region as a tourist centre:—

(i) Indian Airlines flight Delhi-Agra-Khajuraho should have additional stop at Gwalior to enable tourists to see Gwalior and surroundings including Shivpuri National park; and

(ii) Air-conditioned buses should be made available at Gwalior to enable tourists to visit Shivpuri National Park and proceed to Khajuraho via Jhansi.

(b) As regards the suggestion at (i) above, since the Indian Airlines have a tight fleet position and consequently a tight flight schedule, there is no proposal at present to include a halt at Gwalior on its Delhi-Agra-Khajuraho service.

With regard to the operation of air-conditioned coach service for tourists from Gwalior to Shivpuri National Park and Khajuraho, the matter is under consideration.