

ing delay in the delivery of the baggage and inadequacy of other amenities such as air-conditioning, water and self-service trollies etc. and congestion at the airport.

(c) It is always the endeavour of the Government to improve passenger amenities and services and high priority is given to it. Facilities provided at Delhi airport include self-service trollies, left luggage facility, large number of fibre glass chairs, water coolers at convenient places, CCTV System, regular coach service between city and airport, and insurance counter etc.

The facilities, however, sometimes become inadequate due to congestion in the terminal building. Construction of a new terminal complex, to relieve congestion, is under consideration of the Government.

तस्करी के माल का पकड़ा जाना

229. श्री कृष्ण दत्त : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे : कि

(क) गत 2½ वर्षों में कितने पर्यटक भारत से विदेश गये और उनमें से ऐसे व्यक्तियों की संख्या और नाम क्या हैं जिनके पास से तस्करी का माल पकड़ा गया और (व्यक्ति वार) कितने मल्य की वस्तुएं पकड़ी गईं; और

(ख) तस्करी का, राज्यवार ब्यौरा क्या है कितने व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध कानूनी कार्यवाही की गई और ऐसे तस्करी के (राज्य वार) नाम क्या हैं जिनके विरुद्ध मामले वापस ले लिये गये?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगन्नाथ पहाड़िया) : (क) और (ख). सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सदन पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।

**Development of Gwalior as a Tourist Centre**

230. SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not developing Gwalior as a tourist centre when

it is surrounded by many places of historic importance and artistic beauty;

(b) the reasons for not giving it due publicity through advertisements in newspapers and otherwise; and

(c) the reasons for not providing sufficient railway and airconditioned bus services to this place?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION AND LABOUR (SHRI J. B. PATNAIK): (a) Gwalior is already included in the list of centres to be developed in the Central Sector. The India Tourism Development Corporation has acquired a 3-acre plot of land at Gwalior for constructing a Travellers Lodge. This scheme has been included in the Corporation's Five Year Plan 1978—83.

(b) As regards giving publicity to Gwalior, it is featured in the Madhya Pradesh Directory, Tourist Map of India and the Regional folder that the Department of Tourism has brought out and which are being widely distributed abroad.

(c) Gwalior is already well connected by rail. This question of operating air-conditioned bus service to Gwalior will be considered when there is a sufficient demand for such a service.

**Shrinkage in Public Distribution System**

231. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been of late shrinkage of public distribution system;

(b) if so, the extent of shrinkage and specific reasons for that;

(c) whether Government propose to expand the public distribution system with wider coverage both in terms of items of commodities and population; and

(d) Whether Government propose to fix up prices of essential commodities all over the country and arrange for the distribution of the same through public distribution system?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The functioning of the Public Distribution System is under periodical review in consultation with the State Governments, the Central Ministries, and other public agencies concerned. Efforts are being made to enlarge the scope of the public distribution system in terms of area, population and commodities covered.

(d) In respect of a few selected essential commodities distributed through the Public Distribution System, the central issue price at which these are supplied to the State Governments/their nominees/agenices, are fixed.

**Suspension of Scheme for Sale of Gold Through Auction by RBI**

**232. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal under consideration to suspend the scheme for sale of gold through auction by the Reserve Bank of India; and

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN):** (a) and (b). Pur-

suant to the announcement made by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech on 28-2-1978 a total quantity of 12.9 tonnes of gold was sold by the Reserve Bank of India in 14 auctions held between May—October, 1978 on behalf of the Government. The total value of sale proceeds was Rs. 86.5 crores.

Consequent to a sudden steep rise in the international price of gold towards the end of September, 1978, sharper increase in the internal price of gold due to speculative forces, the then Government suspended the gold auction on 26-10-1978. Sale of Gold through auction has thus already been suspended.

**Value and Export of Onions**

**233. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) quantity and value of export of onions (year-wise) during the last two years; and

(b) quantity and value of export of onions during the months of October, November and December in 1978 and 1979?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE):** (a) The quantity and value of onions exported were as follows:

Year	Quantity (tonnes)	Value (Rs. lakhs)
1978-79	1,00,488	5
1979-80 (upto Dec.)	70,206	943.80