

The project may become viable if the plants are scaled up to currently economic sizes. It would, however, be necessary to establish adequate reserves of bauxite for sustaining an alumina plant of the requisite capacity. It has, therefore, been decided to conduct further explorations and re-assess the bauxite reserves in the area. Depending on the final picture of the bauxite reserves, a decision on taking up fresh feasibility study for the project may be taken.

(c) The Indian Aluminium Company holds a lease over Nagartswadi and Kasarsada mines in Kolhapur district. The despatches of bauxite from the mines to its alumina at Belgaum in Karnataka was about 4.4 lakh tonnes in 1979.

Development of Places of Interest in Sunderbans Area in West Bengal

2563. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of his Ministry to develop some places of interest in Sunderbans area in West Bengal to attract tourists;

(b) if so, what are these places;

(c) what will be the tourist attractions arranged here; and

(d) when will the development work taken up and completed?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) to (d). The Five Year Plan 1980-85 of Tourism in the Central Sector is yet to be finalised. The question of tourism development in the Sunderbans will, therefore, be considered only after its finalisation. As the Sunderbans is a vast area the possibility of developing tourist facilities in the area will be considered after making a survey. It is however,

proposed to provide a motor launch for cruising in the Sunderbans area subject to availability of funds.

Apprehended Fall in Prices of Tobacco

2564. SHRI G. S. REDDI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether tobacco producers have expressed apprehension of fall in price this year also; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to prevent this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b). The Tobacco Board has undertaken regulation of the production of virginia tobacco during the current year. There is no apprehension of a fall in prices during the ensuing season if the growers restrict the planting to the area permitted to them by the Board.

Inward Remittances

2566. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the amount of foreign exchange inward remittances during 1979-80 and the current financial year upto November, 1980?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): The overall figures of inward remittances for 1979-80 and 1980-81 (upto October, 1980 for which the data is available) are Rs. 3071.12 crores and Rs. 2925.53 crores, respectively. These figures consist of gross non-export receipts, such as, airline receipts, shipping receipts, insurance receipts, dividend receipts, tourism receipts, etc., besides four heads relevant to the term 'inward remittances' namely, (i) family maintenance, (ii) savings of non-residents, (iii) migrant transfers and (iv) money order receipts.