

- (vi) The International Trade Centre, Geneva had also released an amount of US \$ 20,000 for advertisement promotional campaign.

Development of Hill and Desert Tourism in the Country

4755. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation be pleased to state :

(a) whether emphasis has been laid by Government on the development of hill and desert tourism in the country ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and measures proposed to be taken to implement these schemes during the Sixth plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHUR-SHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) Within the overall constraint of resources with the Central and State Governments, the promotion/development of hill and desert tourism is given due importance in the tourism promotional programmes along with development of other tourist attractions in the country.

(b) A statement is enclosed.

Statement

I. HILL TOURISM

1. Jammu & Kashmir

Gulmarg Winter Sports Project and Indian Institute of Ski and Mountaineering set up in 1968 by the Department provides facilities/organises courses for Winter Ski, Water Ski and Training programmes.

2. Himachal Pradesh

The Indian Institute of Ski, & Mountaineering Gulmarg has been assis-

ting the State Government for conducting Winter Ski courses at Narkanda. The Department also assisted the State Government for the construction of a Club House at Manali at a total cost of Rs. 11.62 lakhs. An amount of Rs. 8.62 lakhs was released during the VI Plan period. An amount of Rs. 4.95 lakhs was released during 1980-81 for the purchase of trekking equipment.

3. Uttar Pradesh

The Indian Institute of Ski & Mountaineering Gulmarg has been assisting the State Government for conducting Winter Ski Courses at Auli/Joshimath. An amount of Rs. 6.26 lakhs was released to the State Government during 1981-82 and 1983-84 for purchase of trekking equipment. A proposal for the construction of 10 cottages and a restaurant at Joshimath has also been accepted by the Department.

4. Sikkim

The State Government of Sikkim was supplied trekking equipment for an amount of Rs 5.67 lakhs during 1978-79 and 1979-80. A Youth Hostel at an estimated cost of Rs. 31.49 lakhs is under execution at Namchi.

5. West Bengal

Trekking and Camping equipment was supplied to the State Government at a cost of Rs. 1.51 lakhs during 1982-83. A proposal for the construction of Trekkers Huts in Sandakphu Phalut region at an estimated cost of Rs 8.00 lakhs is under consideration of the Department.

II. DESERT TOURISM

1. Rajasthan

The Department released a sum of Rs 3.40 lakhs for development of Gadisar Tank at Jaisalmer during 1981-82. An amount of Rs. 4.00 lakhs out of estimated cost of Rs. 13.00 lakhs was

released for the construction of cottages at Moomal Tourist Bungalow during 1982-83. An amount of Rs. 50,000/- was released for the promotion of Fairs and Festival during 1981-82 and Rs. 3.99 lakhs during 1983-84.

The Department has also accepted in principle the construction of Mid-way facilities at Pokaran at an estimated cost of Rs. 17.20 lakhs and provision of 8 Huts in Desert National Park near Jaisalmer at an estimated cost of Rs. 20.00 lakhs.

Success of Self-Employment Scheme.

4756. SHRI N. E. HORO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the 'Business Standard' of 14 July, 1984 stating that officials of the Rural Planning and Credit Department of the Reserve Bank feel that the muchvaunted scheme for self-employment for uneducated/unemployed youth has had little impact on the rural economy even at the end of the eleventh month of its operation despite strong support from the banks ;

(b) if so, whether the trading of the money has superseded the creation of real assets and generation of permanent unemployment in many of the rural employment programmes ; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take for the success of the scheme ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) The Reserve Bank of India has reported that during the course of field level sample check of some of the loans sanctioned under the Scheme for providing self employment to educated unemployed youth, it was observed that many applications for the same activity were sanctioned without fully assessing

the scope for the activity in the area. As a result, the RBI issued a circular in March, 1984 to all scheduled commercial banks advising them to exercise greater care in the matter of selection of beneficiaries, the types of activities financed, appraisal, supervision, follow-up and recovery of loans granted under the Scheme. Such instructions issued to banks from time to time, are part and parcel of the Reserve Banks' overall supervisory role over the banks implementation of loan assistance for various schemes.

Scheme for Pooling the Selling Prices of Imported and Domestic Newsprint

4757. SHRI N.E. HORO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the 'Economic Times' of 16th July, 1984 stating that the scheme for pooling the selling prices of imported and domestic newsprint is being soft-pedalled ; and

(b) if so, whether the scheme is unlikely to be introduced at least in the near future due to inter-Ministerial differences ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A system of weighted average pooled price for domestic and imported newsprint would need to take into account projected/actual quantity of imports, their price supplies in pipe-line, expected/actual indigenous production, demand and other related factors. An exercise is therefore being undertaken to work out the details and the mechanism for introduction of a weighted average pooled price.