

17. Developing wild-life and shikar tourism.

18. Assistance to voluntary organisations, institutions and the private sector through grants and loans for improving and augmenting tourist facilities.

19. Improvement of existing facilities at tourist centres.

20. Better maintenance of places of tourist interest including archaeological monuments.

21. Developing a training programme for building up a cadre of trained and qualified personnel for manning tourist services.

22. Special point to point fares have also been introduced on some international sectors of Air India.

Decline in Export of Engineering Goods

680. SHRI BAKSI NAYAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government of India has been invited to a report in the Statements of the 29th December, 1972 under the caption "Unexpected stagnation in Engineering goods export";

(b) if so, the reasons for such stagnation in exports of engineering goods and the extent to which our foreign exchange earnings have consequently been depressed; and

(c) the steps, if any, being taken by Government to ensure normal earnings through exports of engineering goods?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) to (c). Exports of engineering goods during April-December, 1972 amounted to Rs 96.36 crores as against Rs. 91.72 crores during the corresponding period in 1971. There is, therefore, no stagnation in the exports of this item.

Following special efforts for increasing the growth rate in exports of

engineering goods have been taken or being envisaged:

I. Arrangements for making available indigenous and imported raw materials on priority basis for export fabrication have been made.

II. As a result of participation in Asia '72 Trade Fair, the sizeable export-orders are expected to materialise during 1973-74.

III. A number of delegations and study teams are proposed to be sent in the near future.

IV. The Regional Offices and the Foreign Offices of the Engineering Export Promotion Council have been reorganised to make them functionally more effective.

Export duty on MICA goods

681. SHRI BAKSI NAYAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the details of export duty leviable on mica blocks, mica condenser films and mica splittings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. ANESH): The details of export duty are as under:

Sl. No.	Description of the goods	Rate of duty
1.	Mica blocks and condenser films of grade number 2 and grades superior thereto.	30 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
2.	Mica blocks and condenser films of all grades other than those specified against serial number 1 above.	20 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
3.	Mica splittings of all grades other than grade numbers 5½ and 6.	20 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
4.	Mica loose splittings of grade numbers 5½ and 6, and mica mixed torn loose grade numbers 5 and 5½	15 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>