

lakhs for development of Lake and Zoological Park upto 1972-73 and propose to spend Rs. 7.31 lakhs by the end of current year.

(c) Annual earnings collected by Forest Department are detailed below:—

Year	Ticket sale	Other source	Total
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1969-70	30,119	6,805	36,924
1970-71	42,065	9,717	51,782
1971-72	44,935	24,570	68,605
1972-73	55,722	37,108	92,830

(d) A five year development scheme for department of Zoological Park of Nandan Kanan has been proposed for inclusion in the Fifth Plan of the Central Tourist Department. The Agricultural Department have also a proposal for development of Botanical Garden during the Fifth Plan at an estimated cost of Rs. 23 lakhs. The projects for inclusion in the Fifth Plan, have, however, yet to be finalised.

Foreign aid during Fifth Plan

3891. DR. SARADISH ROY:
SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH
GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries which India has approached for loan and aid for the Fifth Five Year Plan; and

(b) the outcome of the talks held?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) Discussions have been held on our economic relations with friendly countries and more recently such discussions have taken place with West Germany, France, USSR and Czechoslovakia.

(b) The outcome of the talks with West Germany are contained in the joint statement issued at the end of the visit of Dr. Eppler, Minister for Economic Cooperation.

During discussions with the French Minister for France, it has been agreed that Interministerial Groups will be formed on both sides which could draw Plans for Indo-French economic cooperation on a long term basis. France has also offered a credit of 300 French Francs (approximately Rs. 51 crores) for establishment of fertilizer plants in the country.

An agreement has been signed with USSR covering the period of 15 years to further develop and strengthen economic and technical cooperation as well as trade between the two countries under which USSR would continue to assist in our economic development.

An agreement has been signed with Czechoslovakia for a credit of Rs. 80 crores.

Scheme to develop Darjeeling as a Tourist Centre

3892. SHRI RATTANLAL BRAHMAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any scheme to develop Darjeeling as a Tourist Centre;

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof; and

(c) when the scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The Central Department of Tourism is expanding the existing Tourist Lodge at Darjeeling at a cost of Rs. 4.22 lakhs and is also constructing a Youth Hostel there at a cost of Rs. 3.45 lakhs. The work on these projects is in progress and is expected to be completed by March, 1974.

In addition, 2 mini-buses and 2 jeeps at a cost of Rs. 1.65 lakhs have been provided by the Central Government to the State Government for use of tourists visiting Darjeeling.

In the Fifth Plan the India Tourism Development Corporation purposes to construct a 50-room motel at an estimated cost of Rs. 45 lakhs at Siliguri which will cater to the road traffic proceeding to Darjeeling and the States in the Eastern Region.

Export of Roses and Wigs by S.T.C.

3893. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation's efforts to build up export of roses and wigs have failed; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). Export of roses has been given up by the S.T.C. on account of inadequate availability of export quality roses and severe competition in foreign markets.

As regards Wigs, exports had made good progress from 1966-67 to 1968-69 but received a severe set back thereafter due to severe competition from low priced synthetic wigs.

Import of Books by S.T.C.

3894. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation has made in the import of books; and

(b) if so, what is the criteria in choosing the titles for import?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). The STC had already placed orders on about 1500 foreign publishers for supply of about 7000 journals for 21 universities/institutions in India. The Corporation is now processing import of costly books and reference books on science & technology, in consultation with various universities.

Foreign Exchange Earnings through Export of Mica

3895. SHRI R. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the amount of foreign exchange earned during the last three years for export of mica?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): The amount of foreign exchange earned during the last three years from export of mica and mica products was as follows:—

	Rs. Crores
1970-71	17.16
1971-72	17.57
1972-73	19.82

Tourist Week Celebrations in Kerala in 1972.

3896. SHRI A. K. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala Government have requested for a suitable Central Grant to cover the expenditure incurred by the Kerala Government for the Tourist Week Celebrations in 1972;

(b) if so, whether the grant has been released, and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) when the grant is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SARAJINI MAHISHI): (a) No, Sir. However, Kerala Tourist Development Corporation Ltd, approached the Department of Tourism in June 1973 for a grant-in-aid to celebrate Tourist Week to coincide with the Onam Festival during 1973.

(b) and (c). A number of States have in the past observed such occasions and met the cost from their own resources. No provision exists in the budget of the Central Department of Tourism for grants to States for such purposes. It was therefore not found possible to accede to the request of the Kerala TDC in this behalf.