

(b) whether the Union Government have decided to develop Ajmer and Pushkar as the tourist places of international importance;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of domestic and international tourists who visited Ajmer and Pushkar during each of the last three years and the earnings made therefrom; and

(e) the details of the future plans of the Government regarding the development of Pushkar and Ajmer from tourism point of view and the amount earmarked for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) to (c) and (e) Development and promotion of places of tourist is primarily the responsibility of the State/Union Territory Governments concerned. However, the Deptt. of Tourism, Government of India on receipt of specific proposals based on merit, inter se priority and availability of funds, provides Central financial assistance for such developments. In Ajmer and Puskar the following projects have been sanctioned by the Government of India :-

Year	Project	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1990-91	Tourist Accommodation at Pushkar	7.10
1991-92	Yatrika at Ajmer	26.99
1992-93	Pilgrim sheds at Vishram Sthali, Ajmer	34.66
1993-94	Public conveniences at Vishram Sthali, Ajmer	8.48
Total		77.23

Apart from this contribution, the Central Department of Tourism through its tourist offices overseas has projected Pushkar and Ajmer in the world tourist market, through promotional and publicity tools which include brochures, films, etc.

(d) As per information received, the details of arrivals of tourists at Ajmer and Pushkar during the last 3 years are as follows :-

Year	Ajmer		Pushkar	
	Domestic	Foreign	Domestic	Foreign
1993	478977	10326	654827	18863
1994	423912	46024	505357	14710
1995	501476	47651	662699	26719

No separate information on earnings made at each tourist centre is available.

[English]

Vanaspatti Production

5514. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the names of vanaspatti manufacturers alongwith their prescribed quota of production, State-wise;

(b) the quantity of vanaspatti produced by these manufacturers during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the names of vanaspatti manufacturers who have produced vanaspatti more than their prescribed quota, State-wise;

(d) whether this kind of excess production is permissible under the Essential Commodities Act;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the action taken by the Government against each of the manufacturer for violation of provisions of the Act;

(g) whether this type of restriction, if any, on excess production, in the said Act creates scarcity of vanaspatti in the country; and

(h) if so, the reasons for not removing such restrictions?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (h) No quota has been prescribed either on State-wise or manufacturing unit-wise basis under the Vegetable Oil Product Control Order issued under the Essential Commodities Act. The vanaspatti industry has been delicensed with effect from July 25, 1991. The average capacity utilisation of the vegetable oil industry is already less than 40% of the total installed capacity in the country. Hence, the question of excess production does not arise and no consequential action under the Essential Commodities Act against the manufacturers is called for.

[Translation]

National Mineral Development Corporation

5515. SHRIMATI CHHABILA ARVIND NETAM : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the mines of National Mineral Development Corporation, location-wise;

(b) whether the Government have received representations to shift the Headquarters of the Corporation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) The details of the mines of National Mineral Development Corporation Limited are as under :—

(A) PRODUCTION PROJECTS:

- (1) Bailadila Iron Ore Project, Deposit No. 14 & 11c Kirandul, Distt, Bastar, Madhya Pradesh.
- (2) Bailadila Iron Ore Project, Deposit No. 5, Bachel, Distt. Bastar, Madhya Pradesh.
- (3) Bailadila Iron Ore Deposit No. 10 & 11A, Bachel, Distt. Bastar, Madhya Pradesh (Under construction).
- (4) Donimalai Iron Ore Project, Bellary, Karnataka.
- (5) Diamond Mining Project, Panna, Madhya Pradesh.
- (6) Chawandia Limestone Project, Chawandia, Jodhpur, Rajasthan.

(B) NEW PROJECTS UNDER PREPARATION/ INVESTIGATION UNITS :

- (1) Arki Limestone Project, Solan, Himachal Pradesh.
- (2) Geological Investigation Unit, Chandralapadu, Andhra Pradesh.
- (3) Geological Investigation Unit at Kotmisonar, Bilaspur, Madhya Pradesh.
- (4) Bailadila Iron Ore Deposit, 11-B, Bastar, Madhya Pradesh.
- (5) Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Deposit, Karnataka.

(b) to (d) The Government have received representations to shift the Headquarters of NMDC from Hyderabad.

The activities of the Corporation are spread all over India. In addition to the mines which are presently under NMDC, Kudremukh Iron Ore Mines in Karnataka, Kiriburu & Meghataburu Mines in Bihar, Khetri Copper Mines in Rajasthan, and Phosphates mine in Mussorie, U.P., which were subsequently attached to other Public Sector Undertakings, were also under NMDC initially. The Government of India taking into consideration various activities of the Corporation all over India ordered shifting of its headquarters from New Delhi to Hyderabad in the year 1972. Even at present, NMDC's mines are located in different States and new projects are likely to be taken up in States other than Madhya Pradesh. In view of this,

shifting of headquarters from Hyderabad to any other place is not under contemplation.

[English]

Contract to APTECH

5516. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India awarded any contract to Apple Technology (APTECH) including training on ISO 9000 during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total expenditure on the above contracts ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c) Air India awarded contract to Apple Technology (APTECH) for consultancy assignment for certification of ISO 9000 aimed at streamlining the documentation for improvement of their product. Rs. 1.8 lakhs has so far been paid to APTECH out of the total contract amount of Rs. 2.75 lakhs.

Expansion of Alumina Plant

5517. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications received for expansion of Alumina Plant during each of last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of cases cleared so far, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for pendency of the remaining cases; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) to (d) As per the industrial policy, to encourage private sector investment in the aluminium sector, aluminium industry has been exempted from the provision of compulsory licensing. However, a proposal has been received from National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO), a Public Sector Undertaking under the administrative control of Ministry of Mines for expansion project of their Bauxite Mines and Alumina Refinery. The proposal has been cleared by the Public Investment Board (PIB).

Central Schemes

5518. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Central Schemes designed to ameliorate the socio-economic conditions of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes communities alongwith the financial outlays provided to each State thereunder;