

*[Translation]***Foreign Tourists**

743. SHRI PAWAN DIWAN :
 SHRI DATTA MEGHE :
 SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :
 SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign tourists came to India during the last three years, year-wise and the names of the countries to which they belong;

(b) whether the position of India in regard to foreign tourists has been deteriorating day by day since 1984;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any scheme is under consideration of the Government to attract more foreign tourists to visit India;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government have fixed any target to attract more foreign tourists during the current year and next five years; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) :

(a) The number of foreign tourists who visited India during 1994, 1995 and 1996 were as follows:

Year	Number of Foreign Tourists
1994	1886433
1995	2123683
1996	2287860

The countries from where a large number of tourists come to India are U.K, Bangladesh, U.S.A, Sri Lanka, Germany, Japan, France, Canada, Malaysia, Italy, Australia, Singapore and Nepal.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The percentage share of India in the World tourist traffic increased from 0.38 in 1984 to

0.39 in 1996. The figures of foreign tourist arrivals since 1984 are as follows:—

Year	Foreign Tourists Arrivals	Year	Foreign Tourist Arrivals
1984	1193752	1991	1677508
1985	1259384	1992	1867651
1986	1451076	1993	1764830
1987	1484290	1994	1886433
1988	1590661	1995	2123683
1989	1736093	1996	2287860
1990	1707158		

(d) and (e) The development of tourism is a continuous process and a number of schemes involving improvement of infrastructural facilities, Publicity and promotion and development of human resources have been taken up.

(f) and (g) A growth of 8% per annum in tourist arrivals is anticipated during the current year. Efforts have been made to increase the growth rate in the coming years but no target has been fixed.

*[English]***Supply of Sub-standard Milk to Troops**

744. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :
 DR. M. JAGANNATH :
 SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDY :
 SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received reports of sub-standard milk being supplied to defence forces;

(b) whether charges have been made that inferior quality of fodder is being fed to the military live-stock as a result of which 15% of their live-stock is suffering from Tuberculosis;

(c) if so, whether any enquiry has been made into these and similar other charges in regard to supply of milk to the defence forces; and

(d) the steps taken against the responsible persons in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (d) A press report in this regard captioned "Milking the Army with sick cattle" appeared in the issue of 'Hindustan Times' dated 27.5.1997.

2. Quartermaster General, Army Headquarters was asked to go into the details of the report, who, after due verification, intimated that animals in Military Farms are regularly screened for Tuberculosis by Army Veterinary officers and those animals, which are diagnosed with the disease, are immediately culled out from the herd.

3. Milk is supplied to troops only after pasteurisation and its quality is continuously monitored.

4. Dry fodder is stored in compact stacks and is properly covered, as is the practice all over the world and the quality is not inferior.

Cess Collection by Port Trusts

745. SHRI AJMEERA CHANDULAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether port trusts are retaining pollution cess worth Rs. 20.39 crores out of Rs. 25.53 crores collected; and

(b) the action taken by the Government to effectively monitor the collection and remittance of cess by the port trust?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) All the major ports have collected an amount of Rs. 5.66 crores and remitted an amount of Rs. 5.35 crores after retaining collection charges.

(b) The collection of cess is being monitored by the Government.

Examination Method

746. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the examination method of X and XII classes by the Central Board of Secondary Education is under fire;

(b) if so, whether a number of petitions have been filed in the courts alleging malpractices and mismanagement in setting of Question papers and evaluation of answer sheets; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) The Government have come across views including criticism expressed in various quarters about different aspects of the Examination System of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).

(b) and (c) As per information received from the CBSE, one petition has been filed by the Parents Forum for Meaningful Education in the High Court of Delhi this year alleging certain deficiencies in the Question Papers of the Examinations conducted by the Board in 1997 and the marking scheme prepared by the Board for the guidance of the Head Examiners/Examiners. The CBSE has filed a detailed rejoinder on the points/issues raised in the petition. The matter is still sub-judice.

Supply of Defective Tank Ammunition by Ordnance Factories

747. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ordnance factories have supplied over 45,000 rounds of defective tank ammunition to the Armoured Corps regiments across the country without waiting for the test reports to first come in;

(b) whether during test firing it was observed that primer caps were blown off and propellant gases leaked through the capholes leading to loss of life and property as the ammunition fired backwards;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to enquire into the matter of supplying defective ammunition to the armoured Corps by the ordnance factories;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken against the guilty officials; and

(e) the number of people died during the test firings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (e) 39,485 rounds of 125 mm tank ammunition on the High Explosive (HE) and High Explosive Anti Tank (HEAT) ammunition were supplied to the Armoured Corps Regiment by Ordnance Factory Chanda in 1990-91. These versions of the ammunition used primer 'Y'. Primer 'Y' was manufactured with technology transfer from abroad. The initial lots of primer 'Y' were manufactured in the presence and under direct supervision of foreign technical experts