

- ii) Wayside facilities at Mangalwar
- iii) Refurbishment of Deeg Fort, Bharatpur
- iv) Refurbishment of Sunehri Kothi, Tonk
- v) Refurbishment of Rani Ka Mahal, Jaisalmer Fort
- vi) Refurbishment of Palace complex (Amer)

#### Disinvestment Commission

1581. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are not serious about diversifying its shares in the public sector companies;
- (b) whether the Disinvestment Commission in its first report and recommended the Disinvestment Fund comprising proceeds from Public Sector Undertaking Disinvestment;
- (c) whether inspite of the fact that the Disinvestment Commission recommended an overhaul of the existing Voluntary Retirement Scheme and converting it into a pension or an insurance scheme to make it more viable and effective, a provision on the PSU Board and several PSUs to non-statutory Government control in the matter of pricing products and services;
- (d) whether all these recommendations have not so far been implemented;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) whether constituting of Disinvestment Commission has not been helpful?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) The Government is disinvesting its shares in Public Sector Companies from time to time.

(b) The Disinvestment Commission in its first report recommended setting up of a Disinvestment Fund out of the proceeds from Public Sector Undertaking Disinvestment.

(c) The Disinvestment Commission has recommended a voluntary Retirement Scheme of the nature of a pension or an insurance scheme, professionalisation of the PSU Boards and granting more autonomy to the boards on certain PSUs in decision making.

(d) Some of the recommendations have been implemented.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The recommendations of the Disinvestment Commission forms the basis of Disinvestment Policy of the Government.

[Translation]

#### Financing the Small Scale Industries

1582. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY :

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether many banks have not been following the direction of the reserve bank of India regarding financing the small scale industries;
- (b) whether the Government have identified such banks;
- (c) if so, whether any action has been taken by the Government against such bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that studies conducted by it have brought out that all the banks are following guide lines issued by RBI regarding financing the small scale industries.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

#### Provision of Facilities to Tourists in Rajasthan

1583. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that tourists are facing lot of difficulties due to non availability of Hostels and Hotels in Historic and world fame town, Jaisalmer of Western Rajasthan;

(b) the number of foreign tourists visited Jaisalmer during the last three years; and

(c) the action propose to be taken by the Government to increase foreign tourists to this historic and desert district, Jaisalmer?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAL LAL KHURANA) : No, Sir.

(b) The number of foreign tourists who visited Jaisalmer during the last three years are as follows :-

1995	48,001
1996	49,486
1997	51,465 (Est.)

(c) The responsibility of developing the overall facilities and tourist dedicated infrastructure in Jaisalmer rests with the State Government. Ministry of Tourism supports projects proposed in this regard by the Government of Rajasthan subject of financial procedures and availability of resources. Jaisalmer, along with other destination in Rajasthan and the country gets due priority in promotion and publicity efforts of the Government of India Tourist Offices in India and abroad.

#### Excise Evasion by Cosmetics Manufacturers

1584. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action has been taken against some leading manufacturers of cosmetics for excise evasion during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any Directors of these companies have since arrested; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE): (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (d) Upto date information is not readily available. The same is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Action Plans for Development of Tourism

1585. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) number of action plans included in Eighth Five Year Plan for promotion and development of tourism in West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya and Sikkim, separately;

(b) the amount allocated for this purpose, State-wise;

(c) the achievements made in this regard, State-wise;

(d) the steps beign taken by Government in this regard; and

(e) the details of ongoing Centrally sponsored tourism projects in the country, State-wise?

THE MINSITER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : (a) to (e) The Action Plans for the development of tourism in each State is prepared and implemented by respective State Governments. The Union Ministry of Tourism however, provides financial assistance for the implementation of specific projects received from them subject to availability of funds. The number of such project sanctioned in the States of West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya and Sikkim alongwith details of amount sanctioned/released and number of projects ongoing are given below:-

State	No. of Projects		Amount	
	Sanctioned	Ongoing	Sanctioned	Released
			(Rs. in Lakhs)	
West Bengal	35	25	726.42	307.66
Assam	25	19	437.37	184.41
Meghalaya	10	07	110.36	43.39
Sikkim	26	17	321.79	194.31

[Translation]

#### Export of Leather Items

1586. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have chalked out any plan to promote the export of leather items;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has chalked out plans to promote the export of leather products.

National Leather Development Programme was