

viii. Need to Develop Historical Site at Village Deyur in Rewa district in Madhya Pradesh on Highway No. 27as Buddhist Centrs.

SHRI BHEEM SINGH PATEL (Rewa) Mr. Speaker, Sir, very old and important Buddhist monuments and rock inscriptions were found some years back in deyur village or Tyonthar Tehsil of Rewa district in Madhya Pradesh. This place is situated on a beautiful mountain between Rewa and Allahabad and just 5 km. away from the National Highway No. 27. The famous Keyuti and Chachai waterfalls of this district are just 20 and 35 kilometers away from this place, where tourists visit in a large number. Except installation of a board on National Highway No. 27, nothing has been done for development of this place. This place can become an attraction for tourists if it will be developed properly.

Therefore, I request the Government to take measures for development of this historical place as a tourist spot. This place should be accorded importance and protection like all other Buddhist tourist spots for boosting tourist industry and development of this backward district and it will also increase the national income of the country.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER CONTD.

12.50 hrs.

(iii) Deaths of Indians employed in Gulf countries

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L.BHATIA) : Sir, I have noted the senti-

ments of the Hon'ble Member as stated in the special mention in the Rajya Sabha on 21.4.94 and wish to inform the House of the position on the subject of the death of Indians employed in the Gulf countries.

Sir, India's relations with the Gulf countries are marked by cordiality, friendship and cultural, social and economic ties of long standing and tradition. There are an estimated two million Indian nationals in the Gulf who through their services make a significant contribution in various areas in their host countries and are also responsible for inward remittance to India of the order of over Rs. 7800 crores annually. The Gulf countries account for a sizeable and varied market for our exports and approximately two thirds of our oil importers. The Gulf countries thus hve a significant place in our external relations.

A large number of Indians go to these countries on their own to pursue the opportunities available to them there. The labour market in the Gulf is a competitive one and persons from a number of other countries are also working there. While the Indian community hails from all parts of the country, a significant number are from the southern states.

The number of Indians in the Gulf in 1993 has gone up by approximately 31% from 1992. While all Indians are encouraged to register themselves with the Indian Mission in a country, the fact is a large number do not do so. Based on the information collected by our Mission the number of deaths of Indian in the Gulf during this period has risen by approximately 15% from 1,826 in 1992 to 2,100 in 1993.

Sir, the issue that arise in this context are the security available to Indian workers in the Gulf countries and the procedures