

availability of resources and other relative priorities.

Development of Jaunpur as A Tourist Centre

7520. SHRI YADVENDRA DATT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a number of domestic and foreign tourists visit Jaunpur (Uttar Pradesh) every year;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to develop Jaunpur and provide facilities to them in view of it sbeing a historical tourist centre;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the allocation of fund made by Union Government during 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) to (e). Development of tourism is primarily the responsibility of State Governments. However, the Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to States for development of tourism infrastructure on the basis of specific proposals made by State Governments and subject to their merit, availability of funds and inter-se priorities. State Government of Uttar Pradesh have not sent any proposal in respect of Jaunpur to the Ministry.

Increasing Trend In Imports

7521. SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a recent report of the Reserve Bank of India which referred to the increasing trend in the country's imports portending an economic imbalance;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) the volume of imports during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) the reasons for the increasing trend in imports; and

(e) the efforts being made to curtail imports and increase exports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The new import-export policy has attempted to Prune non-essential imports while giving a thrust to value added exports. Efforts are also being made to encourage efficient import substitution especially in the area of bulk imports. Simultaneously, the Government is also reducing the macro-economic imbalance by cutting the budgetary deficit.

(c) The value of imports during the financial years 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 (April-January) amounted to Rs. 22,244 crores, Rs. 28,194 crores and Rs. 28,937 crores respectively.

(d) Imports of bulk commodities increased sharply in 1987-88 and 1988-89 due to drought conditions that prevailed during 1984-88. Imports also increased in rough gems in response to strong export performance. Imports of raw materials intermediate inputs and components have increased due to high rates of industrial growth.

(e) As reflected in the new Import-Export Policy (1990-93), the Government has initiated a series of steps to curtail imports in the shape of efficient import substitution in the area of bulk imports and to reduce non-essential imports. At the same time initiative have been taken to make exports commercially viable by upgrading technology, ensuring supply of raw materials at competitive prices, strengthening infrastructural areas and simplifying the procedures.