

Bihar with financial assistance to the tune of about Rs. 100.00 crores from the Government of Japan.

(c) and (d). Development of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, Ministry of Tourism extends financial assistance to the State Governments for strengthening of tourism infrastructure for specific proposals based on their merit, availability of funds and inter-se-priorities. In so far as Jhalawar is concerned, a Tourist Bungalow was sanctioned during the year 1989-90 at a cost of Rs. 10.85 lakhs out of which an amount of Rs. 5.00 lakhs has already been released to the State Government.

Tourism in Kashmir Valley

*5. SHRI PIRAYE LAL HANDOO:
SHRI MULLAPPALLY
RAMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether tourism in Kashmir Valley suffered a decline in the year 1990;

(b) if so, the extent thereof in comparison with the year 1988 and 1989;

(c) whether there is any plan under consideration of the Union Government to rehabilitate tourism based population of the valley; and

(d) if so, the broad features of the plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI USHA SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the information available from State Government, the total tourist traffic to Kashmir Valley upto June 1990 was 6,101. As compared to the same period of the pre-

vious years, the decline is 97.6% over 1989 and 98.3% over 1988.

(c) No, Sir. There is no special plan under consideration for rehabilitation of tourism based population of the valley.

(d) Does not arise.

Support Price For Farm Produce

*6. SHRI NARSINGRAO
SURYAWANSHI:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the High Powered Committee on Agriculture has reviewed the working of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP);

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Committee;

(c) whether any model formula has been laid down for the computation of the support prices by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI DEVILAL):

(a) The Committee, constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh to go into the issues relating to declaring Agriculture as an Industry, has made certain observations in its Report on the working of the Committee for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)

(b) The Committee has not agreed with the methodology followed by CACP in recommending procurement/minimum support prices of crops. It has recommended that

support prices of farm product be linked to parity prices, determined according to principle of parity with base year 1970-71=100. The Committee has also mentioned that if the parity concept is accepted as the basis of determination of support prices, the services of CACP can be dispensed with. However, if the Commission is to be retained, it should be made to function like a judicial tribunal, according to clearly laid down scientific criteria.

(c) and (d). No, Sir.

[*Translation*]

Foodgrains Production

*7. SHRISHOPAT SINGH MAKKASAR:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed and the actual yield of foodgrains during the rabi season 1989-90;

(b) whether the Government propose to export rice and wheat in view of the bumper rabi and kharif crops this year; and

(c) if so, the quantum thereof and the rates, at international level, at which these are to be exported?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI DEVILAL):

(a) The target fixed and the estimated production of food-grains during Rabi 1989-90 are 770.00 and 697 lakh tonnes respectively.

(b) In view of the balance of payments position and good prospects of crop production during the current year, the Government has decided to allow export of foodgrains during the financial year 1990-91.

(c) The Government has decided to allow export of 10 lakh tonnes each of wheat and rice and 1 lakh tonnes of wheat products during the current financial year. Export of Basmati rice is freely allowed subject to Minimum Export Price (MEP) of Rs. 9500 per Metric Tonne and pre-shipment inspection. For non-basmati rice, the MEP is Rs. 6000 per Metric Tonne. As regards wheat, export is to be undertaken at international prices which vary from time to time.

[*English*]

Assistance Received from Abroad for Evacuating Indians from Kuwait

*8. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:
SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA
MURTHY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any foreign assistance for evacuating the Indian from Kuwait;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by Government to get assistance from world organisations?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Geneva-based International Organisation for Migration (IOM) operated 101 special and other flights at their cost to evacuate approximately 29,000 Indian nationals. Further, the Commission of the European Community agreed to finance the evacuation of 12,400 Indian nationals at a cost of \$ 5.4 million, who were evacuated on Air India aircraft.