

<i>Metal</i>	<i>Imports</i>			<i>No. of countries from which imported</i>
	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	
Silver				
Quantity (in gms)	22150	2600	3171320	8
Value (Rs. in lakh)	7.51	0.26	138.45	

[*English*]

Development of Hill Stations in Orissa

5077. SHRI D. AMAT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Orissa Government has sent any proposal to Union Government for approval and granting financial assistance; and

(b) if so, the time by which this scheme is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) No project along with estimates has been received from State Government of Orissa, against the prioritised projects for 1990-91.

(b) Does not arise.

LIC Assistance for Housing

5078. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has increased its activities in promoting housing:

(b) if so, the steps taken by the LIC in this regard:

(c) the target set by the LIC for housing loans in Karnataka for 1990-91;

(d) the rate of interest charged by the LIC on housing loans:

(e) whether there is demand to reduce the rate of interest; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the LIC in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In 1987, Government amended the relevant section of the Insurance Act regarding 'first mortgage' which has enabled LIC to grant loans to its policyholders for the purchase of flats and, accordingly, in 1988 a new scheme called 'Bima Niwas Yojana' was framed. The Corporation's Own Your Home (OYH) Scheme was also modified in the year 1987 in order to give boost to housing finance activities. Now, centres numbering 317 have been identified for intensive development of the OYH Scheme. LIC has also set up a subsidiary Housing Finance Company jointly with UTI, ICICI and IFCI for this purpose w.e.f. 19th June, 1989.

(c) LIC has set a target of 3300 loans under OYH in Karnataka for