

SHRI AMAL DATTA : You can't do it with computers also...?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : No, we don't have computers.

[Translation]

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Mr. Speaker, in view of the tough competition, the textile exports to the United States and other countries should be of a superior quality so that they can stand in the competition there. I want to know what steps he is going to take to push up exports of textiles to these markets?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, we have already taken steps to this effect. These include payment of duty drawback and C.C.S. We also arrange buyer-seller meets. We are setting up an institute in textile designing. It will be a fashion institute. It will prepare good designs of quality garments and will help the people so that exports are pushed up by improving the quality control.

[English]

SHRI MURLI DEORA : The hon. Minister has stated that in order to give boost, there is an increase in the CCS and other incentives for exporting textiles. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware that there is inordinate delay in getting this incentive as well as the duty drawback and in view of the fact that in the recent budget, the Government has announced this Modvat system whereby you can get automatic credit. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he will allow this facility to the exporters whereby automatic duty drawback is available.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : I would certainly like to avail of the duty but my friend here in the Finance Ministry would have to be more cooperative.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : The figures given by the Minister about the value of export for three years are showing a rising trend. That, of course, is quite gratifying, but I would like to know from him whether the potential of export of our textiles to the USA market is being seriously affected or not by the high protec-

tionist tariff barriers imposed by the United States authorities on import of textile goods from India. If so, I would like to know whether they have imposed a quota system, and that it is only according to that that we are in a position to export. What are we trying to do to take this matter up with the USA authorities?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : The quota system is under the MFA, multi-fibre agreement and the exporting developing countries are not in favour of this multi-fibre agreement, but unfortunately, the importing countries and the developed countries are very much in favour of maintaining this agreement. Actually, we want that this should be under the GATT which provides that there should be no restrictions and no quota system, and only the importing countries can increase the tariff, but the tariff should be uniform for all the countries and there should be no discrimination against any country.

SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD : Recently, the Festival of India organised by us in the USA had a very good impact on the American people and it was a very good opportunity to exhibit some of our textiles in these exhibitions. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, whether these exhibitions had any favourable effect on the export of textiles.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : The Festival of India in the United States had a very large impact on all aspects, of tourism and trade; and in trade, the textile are also included.

Demand of Tea Industry for Unrestricted Export

*187. **SHRI ANANDA PATHAK :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the tea industry demanded unrestricted tea export in 1986 ;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to the said proposal ; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The export quota restrictions and the Minimum Export Price requirements had already been withdrawn.

SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : In answer to my main question, the hon. Minister has stated that the export quota restrictions and the minimum export price requirements had already been withdrawn. The restrictions are, however, not limited to the export quota and minimum export price. There are other maladies also. The Government have not been able to formulate a firm policy on production, export and supply of tea to domestic market. Tea export fetched Rs. 745 crores of foreign exchange in 1984 and Rs. 700 crores in 1985. The tea industry also paid around Rs. 200 crores to the Government exchequer in the form of duty, taxes, cess etc. This industry also provides direct employment to more than 10 lakhs of people and indirectly to almost the same number. In view of the above, and the importance of this industry, I would like to know what concrete proposals the Government have to formulate a national tea policy so that the country may meet the need of international as well as domestic markets and maintain its position irrespective of casual fluctuations in the market.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : In fact, it is because of a very consistent and a progressive national policy with reference to the tea production and tea marketing that every year the situation is improving. In spite of the fact that even this year, the international prices have gone down, our exports, unitwise, have increased and our foreign exchange is also available in a very comfortable measure. I would not like to go into the details of figures because it takes time. Actually, the position is like this. In the year 1985, we have been able to export 222 million KG, which is quite high as compared to the earlier years and foreign exchange of Rs. 711 crores has been earned. Now, if it is a question of value part of it, in the context of value, it is slightly less as compared to the previous year because of the fall in the inter-national prices. But the quantity of the tea that has been exported is more than the quantity exported in the previous year.

SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : The Minister has stated that the quantity of export is more this year and I think as per the target, it may go up. But keeping in view the pace of the production, I do not know how far the target can be met. Secondly, it is heartening to note that the tea industry has a firm domestic market. But the price in the domestic market is so high and it is beyond the reach of the common people of the country, who are below the poverty line. You know that the domestic demand was 416 million KG at the end of the Sixth Plan and at the end of the Seventh Plan, it will be about 503 million KG. I would like to know from the Minister categorically whether the Government is considering to fix a reasonable price for tea in the domestic market.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : Sir, the position is that as on today, the price of tea is very comfortable. In January 1986, the price at Calcutta market was Rs. 23 per KG as compared to Rs. 29.43 per KG during January 1985. Therefore, to say that the price position is not comfortable in the internal market may not be that true.

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : We never get at such prices.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : What is your objection? If you tell me, I can answer.

MR. SPEAKER : You answer to Shri Ananda Pathak.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER ; I want to know the objection so that I can answer.

AN HON. MEMBER ; Can you satisfy the whole House?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : True. I have to satisfy the whole House on the basis of the question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI G. G. SWELL : They are not getting tea at the price mentioned by the Minister. That is the question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : If the objection is that the tea is not available at the price that I am referring to, I will go into it. It is not as if I would like to escape myself. I am saying this so far as the auctions are concerned. The price has been determined on the basis of the auction. In fact this concept has been introduced in recent times for this purpose that so far as the growers are concerned, they should get an appropriate remuneration for the efforts that they put in for growing tea. In the three markets of Cochin, Gauhati and Calcutta 75 per cent of the tea produced in the country and particularly the one which is called CTC, which is used in the internal market is now auctioned so that various buyers can come there and the price can be settled at a proper rate. And it is on that basis, I submit that so far as January is concerned, the prices were ranging in Calcutta at the rate of Rs. 23/- per kg. which is much less than the corresponding period of last year. Now, Sir, so far as the fixation of the price is concerned that is not done in the internal market. Because the internal market price is settled on the basis of the auctions. It is true that the minimum export price is fixed on certain occasions. As I said even that has been withdrawn because it depends on certain circumstances, which I need not go into at this stage because the question only related with reference to the internal market. He did not ask with reference to external market. Therefore, I am not making any statement.

PROF. G. G. SWELL : Sir, the hon. Minister has said that the export quota has been withdrawn, the ceiling of the export price of tea has been withdrawn. That means there is unrestricted export. I would like to know, how much tea is produced in the country today and how much of that tea is likely to be exported under the new arrangement and whether it will have an adverse effect on the internal tea consumption.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : Sir, in the year 1985, the tea production stands at 657 million kgs. The internal consumption is 415 million kgs. The external export is 222 million kgs. The situation is absolutely under control.

PROF. G. G. SWELL : I am asking you how much of this tea is likely to be exported under the new arrangement and whether

a study has been made that it is likely to have an adverse effect on the tea consumption in the country? How much is likely to be exported?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : I have said at least 220 million kgs. And the situation is, it will not affect the internal market in any form whatsoever.

Promotion of Tourism in Haryana

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*188. **SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA:**

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :

Will the Minister of **PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM** be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government to promote tourism in Haryana during the Seventh Five Year Plan ;

(b) the details thereof including the places to be developed ; and

(c) the funds allocated therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) (a) to (c) A Statement is given below.

Statement

The Department in consultation with the State Government has identified (1) Badkhal (2) Dharuhera (3) Gurgaon (4) Hodal (5) Kaleswar (6) Karnal (7) Kurukshetra (8) Naraingarh (9) Palwal (10) Panchkula (11) Panipat (12) Pinjore (13) Rohtak (14) Sidhaura (15) Sultanpur (16) Sohna (17) Surajkund and (18) Tajewala in the state of Haryana for development of tourism infrastructure in a phased manner through the combined resources of the Centre, the State and the private sector.

The Central Government has already sanctioned an amount of Rs. 31.65 lakhs for construction of a Yatri Niwas at Kurukshetra. In addition, the State Government has been requested to earmark suitable sites for construction of Yatrikas at Agroha and Kurukshetra. The construction of Yatrikas is undertaken by **Bhartiya Yatr Avasi Vikas Samiti**, a registered society which receives about 90 per cent of its expenses as grant-in-aid from the Department of Tourism.