

paper of small denominations, has suffered due to this ?

**SHRI B.K. GADHVI :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is in our knowledge. That is why we have been trying to do our best to see that paper is supplied early and more stamp paper are printed.

[English]

**SHRI T. BASHEER :** Many of us, the Members of Parliament, have been receiving complaints and representations, especially from Kerala, that there is an acute shortage of stamp papers of smaller denominations. People have to purchase stamp papers of high denominations, which are actually not required for the purpose. Though over the years, the demand has been increasing, the Government has completely depended on the production in the India Security Press. I would like to know whether the Government proposes to decentralise the production of these stamp papers in the various States, so that these can be supplied according to the demands in the States.

**SHRI B.K. GADHVI :** No, Sir. We are not trying to decentralise the production and giving it to the State Governments. Presently there is no thinking on this.

#### Formation of a Master Plan for Tourism in U.P. and Bihar

\*368. **SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :** Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether a master plan for tourism has been formulated for Uttar Pradesh and Bihar ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SYED) :** (a) and (b) A statement is given below :

#### Statement

(a) and (b) The Central Department of Tourism does not formulate Master Plans for any State as such, but approves and finances tourism infrastructure development plans

submitted by States. The Department of Tourism has got Master Plans prepared for the development to the following Tourist Centres in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh :

#### UTTAR PRADESH

- (i) A master plan has been prepared for the development of Kushinagar, Sravasti and Piprahwa by the Central Town & Country Planning Organisation ; and
- (ii) A master plan for Fatehpur Sikri has been prepared by National Institute of Design.

#### BIHAR

For Bodhgaya, Rajgir and Nalanda, a master plan has been prepared by the Central Town & Country Planning Organisation.

**SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :** Admittedly, Nalanda, Rajgir, Bodhgaya and Vaishali are places of pilgrimage to Budhists, both domestic and foreign. I would like to know whether there is any plan to construct more lodges and rest houses with catering facilities to improve road and communication and also to provide some programmes for evening entertainment.

I am glad that the Government is thinking of spending crores of rupees to develop centres of Budhist interest, but Vaishali has not been mentioned in that. I am sure, the Minister knows that Vaishali is one such place where Lord Budha and Lord Mahavir gave their messages and was a cradle of democracy. Vaishali's importance can be judged from the fact that a very tall stupa of 145 feet is being erected at the initiative of late Phuzi Guruji of Japan.

May I know if any special plan is being made for the development of Vaishali and how long would it take to develop these centres ?

**MUFTI MOHD. SYED :** It is a fact that a large number of tourists and pilgrims come from Thailand, Sri Lanka, Japan and other countries to visit these places of pilgrimage. There are no facilities of accom-

modation, and there are no air links available. We have prepared an action plan whereby we have drawn a master plan of bomost of these places, especially Bodhgaya, Rajgir, Vaishali and so many important places of pilgrimage. From this year, we are constructing accommodation at Bodhgaya, Rajgir, Vaishali and other places for the tourists. The action plan has been started from this year.

**SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :** There are many other places of tourist interest in UP and Bihar. Are the Government thinking of preparing plans for their alround development ? If so, the details thereof and the estimated cost for the same.

**MUFTI MOHD. SYED :** The Ministry is taking up the following projects during 1987-88 :

1. Wayside amenities at five Budhist centres as recommended by the Task Force on Budhist Circuit
2. Proposal for trekking equipment for Garwal Mandal Vikas Nigam
3. Provision for wayside facilities
4. Watersport at Kalagarh lake
5. UP Hill Development Projects.....  
(Interruptions)

**SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :** What about Vaishali ?

**MUFTI MOHD. SYED :** There are a number of important places and we are trying to take up the work on priority basis. First is Bodhgaya, Rajgir, Khushinagar, Saravasti etc. and the work is being taken up in a phased manner.

[*Translatian*]

**SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to know one thing from the hon. Minister. Tourism has become an industry and substantial foreign exchange can be earned from it. The hon. Minister has stated that Nalanda, Rajgir and Bodhgaya in Bihar have been included in the Master Plan. Is the

hon. Minister aware that in Bihar there are several other hill resorts and places of tourist interest, which can earn a lot of foreign exchange after these are developed ?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to tell you that the first poet Mahrishi Valmiki had written the first epic, Ramayana in Bhainsalotan Valmikinagar—

**Ma nishad pratishtha twamgam  
shashwari shava**

Then there is Mithila in Palamau where forest and livestock are disappearing, as also Netrighat, which is known for its unique sun-rise. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he will include all these places in the Master Plan ?

[*English*]

**MUFTI MOHD. SYED :** Sir, there are many places to develop and there is a lot of potential. But we have to do it according to the priorities.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister had recently visited some places like Varanasi, Gorakhpur etc. in Uttar Pradesh and had stated there that these places will be developed for the tourists. In your reply you have mentioned certain places which relate to Buddhism and were visited by Lord Buddha or his disciples. You have stated that for their development State Governments have formulated schemes, but the financial position of the States, particularly that of the Uttar Pradesh is such that they are passing through a very critical financial crisis. In such a situation it does not seem possible that they will be able to provide these kinds of facilities. You have mentioned Sarnath where a large number of new tourists, particularly from Japan and South-East Asia are coming with new enthusiasm. Tourists from West Europe and America also visit this place. Will you make endeavour on behalf of Government of India through Budgetary provisions or any other scheme to provide cheap lodging facilities, rail facility etc. for the development of these places instead of leaving this job at the mercy of the State

Governments ? What are your views in this regard ?

**MUFTI MOHD. SYED :** Sir, it is true that the basic facilities to the foreign tourists coming from Japan and other countries.....

**MR. SPEAKER :** Mufti Saheb, a tourist is a tourist, whether he visits a place for religious purposes or just for enjoyment, whether he comes from a foreign country or is from our own country. In Vrindavan, Mathura and other places in U.P. there is no arrangement for tourists. I visit these places, people have also informed me and I have many a time written also, but to date nothing has been done. There is neither any proper lodging arrangement nor any boarding arrangement. Every thing is hotch potch. It also involves the important subject of national integration. People come from all the States to these places. You must pay attention to it and not leave it to the State Government alone.

**MUFTI MOHD. SYED :** Sir, it is a fact that the basic facilities are lacking there. It is obvious that the more these are increased, the better will be the position. Lord Buddha chose certain places like Sarawati, Kushinagar, Kapilvastu, Rajgir etc. These are such beautiful places that the basic facilities must be made available here. Tourists and pilgrims come to these places. They come from Japan, Thailand, and other places. There are domestic tourists also. The main thing is that there are no basic facilities. Therefore, the Department of Tourism has prepared a detailed programme so that basic facilities like dormitories etc. could be provided in these places. Then the question of improvement of roads also comes. While going from Patna to Gaya and from Gaya to Bodhgaya, you will observe that the road is in such a bad condition that even trucks cannot be plied there. The Department is simultaneously trying to provide these basic facilities alongwith other facilities.

**SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in India, the desert area of Rajasthan is the land of warriors and every inch of this land, specially the region which comes under Jhunjhunu and Sikar reflects feelings of patriotism. In it there are various

types of forts, havelis, thousands of windows, religious places, Rani Sati's place, religious place like Lohagar dating back to the period of Pandavas, place relating to Thakur Shyam, Jain temples etc. Thousands of devotees and tourists come daily to these places. Does our able and efficient Minister, in whom we have full confidence, intend to provide facilities in these places of Rajasthan ?

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** From where our hon. Speaker, also comes.

*(Interruptions)*

**MUFTI MOHD. SYED :** It is true that there is a lot of tourism potential in Rajasthan and the situation at present is that in the entire 'Golden Circuit' consisting of Agra, Jaipur, Udaipur etc. there is hundred per cent occupancy upto 31 March. I have, therefore, held meetings with the State Government and the Chief Minister twice and have asked them to provide hotel and other facilities. The foreign tourists complain that there are no 4-Star or 5-Star hotels in that region. I have asked the Chief Minister to get the different places developed and private sector should be involved in this work and accommodation facilities should be provided. There is need to develop sites of historical importance. Certain schemes in this connection are under consideration at our level also.

**SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has informed that Master Plan has been submitted to the State Governments. I want to know whether the Central Government is aware as to which are the places in the States which are relatively more important and which attract more tourists ? Will the hon. Minister issue a directive to the State Governments asking them that such places should be developed on priority basis ; or on the other hand the names submitted by the State Governments will be accepted ? For example, suppose Kushinagar, Sarawasti have been taken up and Sarnath has been left, as Shri Shyam Lal Yadav has said. Similarly, the Government has been laying much emphasis on national integration and efforts have made to this effect. In this connection Maghar, which is the birthplace of Kabirdas, is also important. These are certain places in the eastern region which,

if developed, will attract large number of tourists. This will also promote national integration. Will the Central Government issue directives to the State Governments to promote such places for tourism and will the hon. Finance Minister make funds available for this purpose? If not, why?

MUFTI MOHD. SYED : Sir, the State Governments like U.P., Bihar etc. have not yet kept tourism under priority sector. A very meagre allocation has been made for this purpose in the Plan.

[English]

Now there is a new awareness and we are trying to attract their attention.

[Translation]

They should also utilise their resources to develop these places. So far as Government of India is concerned, we have allocated large funds for it this year and we have selected certain places for development.

[English]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : They should not only depend on the State Government, but they should have their own discretion and their own funds. They should have their own discretion as to what should be taken first and as to what should be taken afterwards. They should have their own discretion—because they are going to provide their own funds—as to which places are to be taken first and on priority basis.

#### Export of farm products

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\*370. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :

SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the main farm products being exported annually and their value during the last three years and the current year so far, year-wise ;

(b) the names of the countries to which exported and the agency through which exports are being made ;

(c) whether the private sector has offered its services for boosting the export of farm products ; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government in this respect ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) to (d) A statement is given below.

#### Statement

(a) The main farm products being exported are Basmati rice, Tobacco, Cashew, Spices, Castor Oil, Oil Cakes, Shellac and processed foods, including fresh fruits and vegetables. The figures of exports of these commodities are indicated in the Annexure.

(b) The major markets for our farm products are the USSR and other East European countries, the U.K. and other countries of the European Economic Community, Gulf and Middle East and the United States of America. The export of most of the items of farm products is made by the private trade. However, public sector organisations like STC and MMTC are also engaged in their export along with NAFED.

(c) and (d) The Government has been interacting with the private exporters from time to time. The export licensing policy and export promotion measures are formulated after giving due consideration to the suggestions received from the private trade.