

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 As I said even that has been withdrawn because it depends on certain circumstances, which I need not go into at this stage because the question only related with reference to the internal market.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 Minister has said that the export quota has been withdrawn, the ceiling of the export price of tea has been withdrawn.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.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to when these places mentioned in reply to the question, that is (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, etc. have been identified as such and what is the criteria for such identification and whether the Government of India or the Ministry of Tourism had made any contribution in the development of these places, so far ?

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : Sir, these places were identified long ago in consultation with the State Governments. So the Government of India has made some contribution for development of these places in all the Plans they are going to make contribution in the Seventh Five Year Plan also. But it depends on the merit of the scheme. Certain schemes have been sent by the Haryana Government which are under consideration. One or two have been sanctioned, but largely the Haryana State Government itself has spent a large amount of funds on development of tourism in Haryana and they have developed it well.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : In reply to the question the hon. Minister has answered for the development of tourism infrastructure in a phased manner through combined resources of the Centre, the States and the private sector. May I ask the hon. Minister as to what contribution has been made by the private sector in the development of these places-at tourists spots ?

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : Sir, I do not have the figures with me as to how much the private sector has done in regard to this. We are very keen about the private sector ; coming in a big way in the tourism sector, particularly in the sector of accommodation, transport and amusement. But exactly how much the private sector did in regard to these schemes so far is difficult for me to say. Largely it was the State Government—Haryana Government—which did it with some assistance from the Central Government.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Have any details been worked out about sharing by Central and State Governments, with

regard to the infrastructural development of tourist centres in Haryana, as well as elsewhere in the country ?

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : There is no formula of sharing anything. Here, the situation is like this : in the Plan allocations, there are separate Plan allocations for each State. For example, in Haryana, in the 7th Five Year Plan, it is Rs, 11 crores.

So far as the Centre is concerned, the Centre does not allocate funds which it gets, State-wise. There is no allocation State-wise. The schemes are considered on merits, keeping in view the attraction of the schemes the number of tourists, places, and what they are going to do etc. The States get for their own Plans, separate funds from the Centre for tourism. And from non-Plan funds also, they spend something on tourism.

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK : May I know from the hon. Minister whether any comprehensive plan has been drawn up to fully exploit the potential of Haryana, particularly to provide protection to wild life ; and also to increase the flow of tourists to Sonapat and Kurukshetra ?

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : As I said, these places have been identified. Government of India's policy, as also that of the State Government is that wherever wild life tourism is possible, it should be done. For Kurukshetra, we have a number of schemes. Already, the other day we have sanctioned a Yatri Niwas for Kurukshetra which is a very important place of tourist attraction.

For Sonapat, so far we have not received any scheme. But in respect of any area when we get schemes from the State Government, we certainly give consideration, keeping in view the finances available with us. We are very keen on Haryana. It is very attractive place for development of tourism. It has a good infrastructure. They have done well. In a way, they have been the pioneers in this. Then the State is close to, and is part of the northern wing which includes Haryana, Rajasthan, Delhi, Himachal, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and U.P. They can all get together.

We have also decided that some zonal committee should be set for the purpose of drawing up of schemes for organized groups touring on the basis of some concessional-packages etc. We are keen that Haryana develops in a big way.

Replacement of old Tea Bushes

*189 SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government are aware that almost 40 per cent of the tea bushes in the country are over 50 years old and need replacement soon to avoid import of tea by 2000 A.D. ; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) and (b) A statement is given below.

Statement

It is true that a large percentage of tea bushes in India are very old since organised tea plantation was started about a 100 years back. Government is fully aware of the importance of extension, replantation and replacement of tea bushes to increase production. An area of about 1.33 lakh hectares out of total area under tea of 3.98 lakh hectares has been covered under such measures from 1950 to 1984. In addition to this in hilly area, where replanting may be costly and difficult, large scale rejuvenation, pruning and infilling has been carried out.

These are among the measures which have led to increase in tea production from 285 M.kgs. in 1951 to 657 M kgs in 1985.

The main constraint in expediting the pace of replanting has been the crop loss on account of gestation period of tea bushes. Tea industry has been reluctant to cut the old bushes in years of high prices and there has been a problem of funds in years of poor prices.

Tea Board has been operating Replantation Subsidy Scheme to compensate for crop loss. Recently a Scheme has been sanctioned to allow tax-free carry over of

profits deposited with NABARD for use in years of poor profitability for these activities.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : It has been stated by the Minister that there were around 4 lakh acres of tea bushes in the country in the year 1984-85, of which 40% of the bushes were more than 50 years old. Young bushes in the age group of 5 to 30 bearing full leaves represent only 25%.

MR. SPEAKER : He is not beating about the bush; he is trying to root out the bush.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : The production target in the last year of the 6th Five Year Plan viz. 1985 was 689 million Kgs.; but the actual production was only around 645 million Kgs. It has been stated by him.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : 657 million Kgs.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : The target was 689 million Kgs. The target for the last year of the 7th five year Plan, i.e. 1990 is 806 million Kgs.; and for the year 2,000 A.D. it is 1084 million Kgs. These are the targets. But at this rate of increase, can these targets be achieved? What steps does Government propose to take, to increase the rate of production to reach the targets ?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : I am sorry my hon. friends, figures are not entirely correct.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : What are the correct figures ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVTE : His question is whether the figures are correct or not.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : I will say his figures are not correct. That is why I said not entirely ; that is the expression I used. For the year 1985, the target that was fixed was 655 million kgs and what we have hit is 657 million kgs, two million kgs more than that ; and on the basis of that, I submitted earlier also that 415 million kgs for the internal consumption leaving a surplus of 242 million kgs. Even with reference to the Seventh Five Year Plan, the target that has been fixed is