

you have authorised the setting up of the Hotel and whether you know anything about this Hotel ?

MUFTI MOHD. SYED : Sir, any plan or project for constructing a Hotel is to be approved by the Department of Tourism; in case, it is nearer to the Beach, by the Ministry of Environment and by the local authority like the State Government and other local bodies. Therefore any project which has to come up has to fulfil certain conditions and norms.

[*Translation*]

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Goa, Daman and Diu are famous tourist centres and lakhs of middle class people visit these places every year. However, the hotels constructed there are all either Five-star, Three-star or Two-star and only one hotel is One-Star. Will the Tourism Department make some arrangements for the common people ? Even the poor people long for visiting beautiful places in the country. Is the Department going to do something for them and if so, the time by which it will be done ?

[*English*]

MUFTI MOHD. SYED : Over and above five-star accommodation, as far as unapproved categories wherever private people build hotels are concerned, there is a capacity of 9,000 beds. The Department of Tourism, and the Tourism Development Corporation of Goa have constructed hotels with 1000 beds. So, 10,000 beds are available for middle class tourists.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Mandvi is a very beautiful place in Kutch. The Gujarat Government has already laid the foundation stone for developing this place as a tourist spot. But it is regretted that the Central Government is not sanctioning it. Will the hon. Minister kindly grant the necessary sanction for the development of a tourist Centre there ?

[*English*]

MUFTI MOHD. SYED: Sir, it appears that she is talking about facilities for Gujarat. The hon. Member, I think, can come to me, and discuss.

Export of Indian Machine Tools

*970. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the countries importing Indian machine tools;

(b) the details of their imports of such goods during the last three years; and

(c) India's position among developing and developed countries in regard to the export of tools ?

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

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Indian Machine Tools are being imported by more than 60 countries. Of these, major importing countries of Indian machine tools are - Bulgaria, Canada, UK, USA, USSR, West Germany. Export figures of machine tools compiled by the Indian Machine Tool Manufacturers' Association (IMTMA) during the last three years to the major importing countries are given below:

Country	1984	1985	1986 (Lakhs Rs.)
USSR	459	1656	1920
Bulgaria	197	554	1780
West Germany	88	103	466
U.K.	52	71	71
U.S.A.	118	148	262
Canada	46	39	77
	960	2571	4576
Total exports of machine tools	2070	3245	5338
%age contribution	46.37	79.22	85.72

(c) India stands at 18th position in machine tools production in the world. While detailed statistics of machine tools exported by other countries are not available, Indian exporters have traditionally faced competition from West Germany, Italy, Japan and Switzerland which export over 60% of their total production. In recent years, Indian exporters have been facing increasing competition from Taiwan, South Korea, China and Brazil. In 1986, Indian exported only 12% of its production.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: As you know, India ranks one among the ten industrially advanced countries of the

world, but in the production of machine tools, India's position is 18th, as stated by the hon. Minister in his reply. I would like to know what steps are being taken to improve this position, to increase production etc. so as to bring down the position somewhere below ten, i.e. between 1 to 10, and to keep it between 1 and 10, in conformity with the overall position of India, viz. that it is one among the ten industrially advanced countries of the world. What steps are being taken; what is the present level of production of machine tools; how much of it is being exported; what is the percentage it comes to, and what steps are being taken to improve the position?

SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI: I would like to answer the last part of the question of the hon. Member. At present, the total production is worth Rs. 320 crores, and the export figure is Rs. 53 crores. The hon. Member will be pleased to know that the export figure of 1986, which I had explained to him to be Rs. 53 crores, is 64% jump from the 1985 figure, i.e. it was less than this.

Secondly, about the measures that we have taken now to improve production and to have access to major markets, it is a fact that the machine tools in India, at the very beginning, were viewed more as a substitute for imports i.e. to meet the domestic demands. They were not upto the upgraded technology standards, for competing in the international market.

Now we are trying to develop two categories viz. CNC type and the NC type of machine tools — the hon. Member may be aware of the Computerized Neutralized Components, and the Neutralized Components. At 20 centres are trying to develop them. But costwise they are not very competitive now in the international market. During 1986 we made a breakthrough by exporting Rs. 4 crores worth of 20 CNC machines.

The hon. Member also wanted to know the share of our participation in the export. Twelve per cent of the total production of machine tools were exported. That is the answer I would like to give to the hon. Member.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: India's contribution in respect of this export of machine tools, as said by the Minister just now, is 12%. But there are countries like Italy, Japan and Switzerland which export over 60% of their total production. In recent years, India is facing stiff resistance and competition from Taiwan, South Korea, China and Brazil.

It is generally alleged or the report goes that the manufacturers of Indian tools in India do not have a close report

with the user industries; they do not anticipate their future demand and they also do not go in for advanced technology. For most of the items they are still using the technology of '50s and so the R&D. What steps are being taken to go in for new technology to improve the whole lot so that our position in respect of production and also export moves forward satisfactorily ?

SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI: The hon. Member may be aware of the fact that out of total export, the two public sector units - Hindustan Machine Tools and Praga Tools - are the major contributors. And to develop technology, we have taken a lot of measures since then. We do enter into the market and negotiate with the users through the Engineering Export Promotion Council as an organ for export promotion of the total engineering products including that of the machine tools. Apart from that, country-to-country, party-to-party, when bilateral trade talks figure, we try to identify the areas where we can push some of our machine tools. It is a fact that we are faced with a stiff competition from South Korea, China and Brazil. It is also a fact that Taiwan, is competing us very much. But, as I have stated, taking all these things into account, some time back, a committee of experts was appointed by Mr. Mansukhani, former Chairman of the HMT. He made certain major recommendations only last week how we can improve this area. We will certainly consider these recommendations to further make an access to the international market.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: According to answer (c) given by the hon. Minister, India is occupying the 18th position in machine tools production in the world; whereas small countries like Taiwan South Korea are able to compete with Japan and other countries in machine tools. Even you may be knowing better. If we go to Singapore, we will find Taiwan goods as if they are made of Japan. They are coming forward because of the manual labour which is easily available in Taiwan and

South Korea. Here in our country also manual labour is easily available. Then why is India occupying the 18th position whereas small countries like Taiwan and South Korea are able to compete with other countries? What is the difficulty ?

SHRI P.R.DAS MUNSI : The hon. Member has raised a very interesting question. As I had stated in the beginning, our capacity to begin manufacture of machine tools is primarily of '50s, '60s and even of '70s to obstitute the import content of the domestic industry. Therefore, the export orientation to keep international market having upgrade technology was not there. Now, after the liberalisation of policy, even we are importing under OGL certain kind of very upgraded technologies which provide strength to augment our strength to suit international market in our machine tools; and we ope that we will improve further. As I have stated, we have improved already 64 percent as compared to 1985 figures.

Export of Sea Food

*971. **PROF. K.V. THOMAS:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of sea food exported during the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken for promotion of sea food export ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) The quantity of sea food exports during the last three years were :

1984-85	—	86187 tonnes
1985-86	—	83651 tonnes
1986-87	—	85843 tonnes

(b) Steps taken for promotion of sea food export include promotion of prawn farming for augmenting production of

cultured prawns, encouragement of production of value-added items like IQF (Individually Quick Frozen) shrimps, setting up of prawn hatcheries and measures for exploitation of deep sea fishery resources.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Kerala is a pioneering State in sea food export. At one stage, about 10 years back, they had the monopoly in sea product export, but for the last five years, this industry is facing a crisis due to many factors. One is, there is although competition from abroad, from countries like Thailand. Second is, there is a question about the quality of our sea food. Very often it contains germs. Third is, the industry is not getting proper backing from our banks. Due to these factors, in Cochin, which is the headquarters of the major sea food industries, they are closing one after another. This is a grave situation.

My question to the hon. Minister is, what concrete steps are taken to save this industry.

SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI: First of all, I like to inform the hon. Member that it is not a fact that our marine products exports and sea food exports are in a worse situation now. On the contrary, it is very encouraging and getting a lot of foreign exchange for the country. I like to inform him that in this year's export performance one of the leading sectors of ours was the marine products sector where we are earning the highest amount of foreign exchange, higher than expected. I will give the figure to the hon. Member and he can understand the position. The total exports on marine products, as the hon. Member stated, ten years ago it was a monopoly — if not ten years, nine years ago — and we exported marine products worth Rs. 240 crores and we have exported this year products worth Rs. 470 crores so far, and I am sure when the final figures come, it will be more than that. It is not a fact that we are not improving and much more measures have been adopted