

view to providing facilities to the people through the Department of Tourism and to make available the information relating to the ancient places as also to preserve our culture and civilization. The said Information Centre was removed from there last year. So far as my information goes, no officer was prepared to be posted there and as such the Information Centre was removed from there in connivance with the officials. Under the circumstances, I would like to know the reason why the Centre was removed and whether there is any possibility of the Information Centre being re-opened in the near future and if so, by when?

[English]

MUFTI MOHD. SYED : I think it was a measure of economy that this was done.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not satisfied with his reply. Uttar Pradesh is a big state and a number of tourist spots are there. To say that the centre was closed as a measure of economy is not a proper reply. Therefore, I would like to know the time by which the Centre would be re-opened?

[English]

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Sir, I don't think it is merely naive as my honourable colleague just said but it is also complacent to believe that the various promotional programmes of the Government have led to increase tourism. I suppose the same analogy will apply. If these programmes were not there, that tourism would have dwindled. I don't think that is the case. It is not only naive but complacent because the increase in tourism in the country is because of other international factors prevailing in the traditional international tourist spots. There was a problem in Europe last year. There was that nuclear cloud business. So, that is why there was a major thrust of tourists coming to India. There was a problem in Sri Lanka. So for us it is difficult to believe that it is successful tourism promotion. Something, of course, would be because of that. Sir, that is one of the points.

The other thing is, the concept of only promoting our traditional tourist areas. I am sure the Hon'ble Minister would obviously like to promote Kashmir. This question is aimed at tourist spots throughout the year, like in the hills of Madhya Pradesh at Pachmarhi. Usually—it is stereotyped promotion—you go to Kashmir. Then you go to the beach in Goa. All that, I think, is over-killed and over-sold. But we must, at the same time, promote the non-traditional tourist spots in the country in all our States and not only in Madhya Pradesh. For example, I quoted Pachmarhi. All the States in the country have become beautiful areas.

So, will the Government have a special thrust for promoting non-traditional areas in the country internationally and nationally?

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : Like Chitwara and Bhagalpur.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI : What about the preservation of Kaziranga tourist centre in Assam? Whether the Government has taken any steps?

MUFTI MOHD. SYED : Sir, I agree there are many areas where there is great interest of tourists like Delhi, Bombay, Goa and Kashmir. We have to diversify. We have to explore new areas.

Manpower export trade

*435. SHRI KAMAL NATH :
SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi police have arrested some persons in Delhi recently for running a manpower export trade; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b) : Recently the Delhi Police busted a gang of manpower export racketeers operating from a shop under the Defence Colony Fly-over. A case under section 420/34 IPC was registered on 25.2.1987 at the Police Station Hazrat

Nizamuddin. 346 passports, fake and blank tickets of Air India, etc. were seized. 4 persons have been arrested.

Apart from the above, 8 cases have been registered this year for cheating persons by taking money and making fraudulent promises for jobs abroad. Eight persons have been arrested in these cases.

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Sir, when I was framing this question, I did not know whether I should frame this to the Commerce Minister, Labour Minister or the Home Minister. The earlier question 432 which also talks of irregular export is addressed to the Commerce Minister. Our manpower going abroad is really not export, because export means something which is going away and is being sold. We are not selling our labour. They are only going there for some time. The underlying idea behind this question is not whether this or that case was registered, or it is in such and such court, that is irrelevant. The question is ⁶. Why does this happen? This is happening throughout the year and we read about it in the newspapers quite frequently. There is something wrong and the question is why should these irregularities take place. Why does it become inducive to do a wrong thing? Are our regulations wrong or are they not straight enough?

S. BUTA SINGH : This is being regulated by the Ministry of Labour. There is a regular licence being issued to those people who carry on this kind of trade of sending the manpower. I cannot help it, it is expressed as a trade, and you have framed the question also taking it as a trade. As I said, it is being regulated by the Ministry of Labour. We come in the picture only when such things are brought to our notice that so and so is not complying with the provisions of the licence under which he is carrying on his trade. In such cases the policy definitely come into operation and I have given the list of such cases where the police has been able to get at these people. Nine cases in all have been registered.

The instant case has also been replied by me. I agree with the Hon. Member that there are lacunae and this must be reviewed. I will carry it to the Ministry of Labour. We

will have it reviewed to see that the manpower is not exploited to the extent of being cheated. The manpower is being sent abroad without jobs, and kicked back. They suffer miseries, humiliation and insult and it is something which could not be tolerated and we must do something.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : When we import or export illegally even commodities like chappals or skin of a serpent or a cobra, we call it smuggling and we arrest such people under COFEPOSA. In this case all the persons are charge sheeted under simple section of IPC, that is 420. May I ask whether in order to prevent this smuggling of human bodies, you are going to invoke National Security Act for the purpose of booking these people and preventing this illegal trade. I disagree with my joint questioner who has said that it is not an export. I say, it is an export of human beings to other countries.

S. BUTA SINGH : When the case comes to the police, the report is lodged that so and so has cheated the complainant of so much money with a promise that he will be taken abroad. Unfortunately, the Indian Penal Code and the Criminal Penal Code say that that is covered by Section 420 of the IPC. All these cases are booked under Section 420 of the IPC. In case we are able to do, as suggested by the Hon. Member, we will be able to find some better method to curtail such kind of practice by these anti-social elements.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Sir, They have committed offences not only under Section 420 of the IPC, but also under the Immigration Act. So, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether they will be charged under the Immigration Act too. Who are the persons arrested and in how many cases has the charge-sheet been submitted after the FIR has been launched?

S. BUTA SINGH : As I mentioned in the instant case which has been reported by Shri Kamalnathji, there are five culprits, of whom four have been arrested and the fifth one is absconding. We are doing all out efforts to see that he is also arrested. The case is being investigated. In all the

other eight cases, which I have just now mentioned, eight persons are arrested. Do you want me to read out the names?

MR. SPEAKER : No. It is not necessary.

(Interruptions)

S. BUTA SINGH : It was the wife of Devraj who was running this racket.

Exports from Cochin Port

*436. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of frog legs, prawns, cashew, coir, tea and spices exported from Cochin Port during 1984, 1985 and 1986;

(b) whether there has been a decline in exports from Cochin; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) The exports in respect of specified items from Cochin Port during 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86 are as under :

Sl. No.	Item	Unit of Quantity	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
1.	Frog legs	Tonnes	1451	1270	1099
2.	Prawns	Tonnes	27498	26083	22706
3.	Cashew				
	(a) Kernals	Mt. Tonnes	35245	31409	31904
	(b) Cashew cutshell liquid	Mt. Tonnes	1445	2662	1574
4.	Coir & Coir Products	Tonnes	27476	25565	24672
5.	Tea	000' Tonnes	35.74	51.42	N. A.
6.	Spices of which	Tonnes	30351	32625	N. A.
	(a) Pepper	Tonnes	25389	25023	N. A.
	(b) Ginger	Tonnes	3463	4741	N. A.
	(c) Cardamom	Tonnes	198	710	N. A.
	(d) Turmeric	Tonnes	1301	2151	N. A.

Note : All figures are provisional and subject to revision.

Source : (1) Respective Commodity Board/Export Promotion Council.

(2) Administrative Report, Cochin Port Trust (For spices).