

(e) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (e). Presumably the reference, in the question is to input duty relief granted under Rules 56A and 57A of the Central Excise Rules, 1944. The reliefs is available only in respect of specified inputs used in the manufacture of specified dutiable commodities. This concession is available to units, both in the large scale sector add in the small scale sector. The input duty relief is also available on components of airconditioning and refrigeration appliances.

Some cases have been detected, wherein input duty relief was availed of irregularly in respect of certain airconditioning and refrigeration items. Appropriate action under Central Excise law has been taken in these cases.

Export of Iron Ore During Seventh Plan

6342. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the target set for export of iron ore during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the total tonnage of iron ore expected to be exported through Paradip port during the Seventh Plan; and

(c) the steps being taken to increase the export of iron ore from different iron ore producing States ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) A target for export of 30 million tonnes of iron ore, excluding Kudremukh iron ore concentrates, in the terminal year of Seventh Five Year Plan has been fixed.

(b) No port-wise targets have been fixed.

(c) Following steps have been taken to improve exports :—

(i) Efforts are being made to diversify iron ore markets.

(ii) Action has been taken to improve the iron ore handling facilities at various iron ore handling ports.

(iii) Proposals for improving infrastructural facilities at various ports and of railways are being examined.

(iv) Proposals for augmenting mining of iron ore are being examined.

Incentives to 100 Per Cent Export Units

6343. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal to provide more incentives for 100 per cent export units was under the consideration of Government;

(b) if so, the benefits proposed to be extended to the 100 per cent export units;

(c) the date from which the new incentives provided or going to be provided will come into effect; and

(d) the details of the steps proposed to be taken to promote the 100 per cent export units ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) to (d). The working of the 100 per cent Export-Oriented Unit Scheme is reviewed and additional facilities provided from time to time.

Development of Tourist Places in Andhra Pradesh as Tourist Centres

6344. SHRI V. SOBHANADRESWARA RAO :

SHRI A. J. V. B. MAHESWARA RAO :

Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-

TARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that in Andhra Pradesh, Odalarevu village in East Godavari district, beach area between Bhimaly and Visakhapatnam and Kakinada Hope Island are places of great natural beauty and have the potential of being developed as tourist places for domestic as well as overseas tourists;

(b) if so, whether Union Government would consider to develop these places;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Central Department of Tourism has sanctioned a scheme proposed by the Government of Andhra Pradesh for the construction of 12 beach cottages at Rishikonda located between Bhimaly and Visakhapatnam at a total cost of Rs. 20 80 lakhs during 1985-86. The State Government has provided Dress Changing rooms at Odalarevu beach.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Damaged Notes Issued by Government

6345. **SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Asali Magar Adha Adhura Note" (Genuine but half and incomplete Note) appearing in "Jansatta" of 16th March, 1986;

(b) if so, how such notes are issued by Government press and the Reserve Bank;

(c) whether Government are aware that many times a wad of 100 notes contain only 99 notes which results in loss to the public;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the remedial steps being taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATA IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the course of printing, sometimes due to corner folds a portion of a note may remain unprinted. All such notes are removed as spoils but as this is done manually, there is a rare chance of such a note being supplied to the Reserve Bank of India and its getting into circulation.

(c) and (d). All efforts are made to ensure that each packet contains 100 notes. As soon as the note sheets are printed on the machine each sheet is examined carefully. Thereafter the notes are numbered and packed. Inspection and packing are done in both the Presses manually and sometimes, though very rarely, due to human error, a defective note may get in a packet or while checking and repacking, a note from one packet may get into another packet thus reducing the number of notes in one packet to 99 and increasing the number of notes in another packet to 101. Very few such cases have, however, come to notice so far.

(e) As the notes counting is being done manually, due to human error, mistake cannot be ruled out, particularly on account of the large volume of notes. Every effort is made to ensure that such mistakes do not occur. Government are introducing counting and packing machines gradually to eliminate such errors.

Council for Promotion of Tourism in Himalayan Region

6356. **SHRI HARISH RAWAT :** Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Council has been set up by his Ministry to promote tourism in the Himalayan region;