

- (b) under-utilisation of installed capacity due to irregular power supply and power shortage, high cost of captive Power, etc.;
- (c) abnormal increase in cotton prices, particularly from the middle of 1980-81 to 1984-85;
- (d) increase in cost of Power, coal, dyes and chemicals, stores and spares;
- (e) excess labour force;
- (f) increase in wages/salaries;
- (g) poor work norms and low productivity.

(c) Some of the important steps taken/being taken, within the limited resources, to improve the performance of the mills under NTC are as under :—

- (i) arrangements are being made for timely procurement of cotton from different available channels;
- (ii) working capital has been replenished to make up for such losses;
- (iii) to overcome the power shortage, self-generating capacity, has been provided;
- (iv) selective modernisation programme have been adopted for result-oriented gains; for best utilisation of limited resources;
- (v) cost control methods have been introduced for reduction in cost of production at all levels;
- (vi) efforts are being made for reducing the non-operational administrative expenses;
- (vii) workers' participation scheme in the management is being encouraged to achieve higher productivity.

Production and Export of Betel-Leaves

850. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of foreign exchange

India earns for betel-leaves export per year;

(b) the names of the countries which are Chief importers of Indian betel-leaves; and

(c) the names of the States which are the principal producers of betel-leaves and the volume of their production ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) According to the provisional figures compiled, export of betel leaves in the last three years has been as under :—

1982-83	Rs. 40 lakhs
1983-84	Rs. 80 lakhs
1984-85	Rs. 74 lakhs

(b) Our exports are mainly to Pakistan, Baharain, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, U.K. etc.

(c) Firm figures of area and production in respect of betel-leaves are not available. West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Orissa, Kerala, Bihar, U.P. and Maharashtra are major producers of betel leaves.

Publicity Abroad for Important Tourist Centres

851. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have given publicity about the important tourist centres of our country in the foreign countries;

(b) if so, whether any place from West Bengal is there in such publicity;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to include some centres from West Bengal in publicity in consultation with West Bengal Tourism Department ?