

tourist centres this year may have turned away a number of foreign tourists from visiting India. However, no estimate of their number is available.

(c) In order to encourage investment in the hotel industry, Government has extended several incentives/concessions to the hotel industry. These include exemption from the MRTP Act in the matter of both new projects and expansion of existing hotels; income tax holiday to new hotels; higher depreciation allowance; central subsidy for construction of new hotels in specified backward areas; interest subsidy on hotel loans advanced by IFCI; Foreign Exchange Incentive Quota for overseas advertising/publicity, promotional tours, import of provisions, equipment including vehicles (upto two in a year); concessional customs duty on a number of items imported by hotels for actual use; priority in the allotment of telephone/telex connections, etc. Besides, some of the State Governments have also accorded hotels/tourism the status of an industry, which entitles hotels to such concessions/incentives as are available to other industries in the respective States.

In the public sector, the India Tourism Development Corporation is setting up a 30-room hotel at Gulmarg besides expansion of 2 hotels and conversion of one Travellers' Lodge into a hotel. It is also constructing 6 hotels as joint venture projects with the State Governments.

The Department of Tourism also is setting up Yatri Niwases and Forest Lodges, in collaboration with the State Governments, to provide accommodation for budget tourists.

#### **Diverslon of Cotton Mills Funds**

1625. SHRI D.P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether various Government studies have brought out the that cotton mill industry diverted its funds to more lucrative lines of business ;

(b) whether the Indian Cotton Mills Federation has published a report to prove that there is no such diversion of funds ;

(c) if so, whether Government have studied the financial analysis and report published by the Indian Cotton Mills Federation ; and

(d) the reaction of Union Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Government are not aware of any such specific finding in any study conducted by Government.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

#### **Review of OGL Policy**

1626. DR. G.S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are reviewing the list of items covered by the Open General Licence (OGL) policy ; and

(b) if so, when the revised OGL policy would be announced ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) and (b). The basic objectives of import policy are to provide easy access to inputs essential for maximising production and exports and at the same time promoting self-reliance and safe-guarding the reasonable interests of the domestic industry. To achieve these objectives the import policy is kept under constant review and necessary corrective measures are taken from time to time.

#### **Official Recognition to Ex-Servicemen's Organisation**

1628. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have given recognition to any organisation of ex-servicemen as their official spokesman ;

(b) if so, the particulars of such organisation and the criteria laid down for such recognition ;

(c) whether any representation from the National Ex-servicemen Coordination Committee is pending with Government for grant of recognition as official spokesman of ex-servicemen ; and

(d) if so, since when and the reasons for delay in taking decision thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) and (b). There is no organisation of Ex-Servicemen recognised as such by the Government. However, the Indian Ex-services League, with its affiliate at State/District levels, representing a cross-section of ex-servicemen all over India is patronised by the Government.

(c) and (d). A representation had been received from the National Ex-servicemen Coordination Committee through its Patron in 1985 for grant of recognition as official spokesman of the ex-servicemen. Considering the fact that the Indian Ex-services League was generally more representative of ex-servicemen as a general body rather than as representative of any particular broad group in terms of area or employment in Government or certain types of institutions, Government had decided that only a single agency, namely the Indian Ex-Services League should be acknowledged as the sounding board for proposals relating to the welfare of ex-servicemen, particularly in regard to welfare and re-employment of ex-servicemen who are yet to find gainful employment. Government does not look upon any body of ex-servicemen as an agency to negotiate a settlement but as a body which may bring to the notice of Government the nature of problems facing the general body of ex-servicemen. Hence there would be no advantage in recognising more than one such body, as this may

also lead to avoidable problems with any recognition of a multiplicity of bodies. All this was explained in the reply sent on 30.10.1985. Any particular class of problems brought to the notice of Government by any body of ex-servicemen is looked into by Government for appropriate action.

**Growth rate of Rubber and Demand by 2000 A.D.**

1629. DR. K.G. ADIYOGI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the production of rubber in India, State-wise for the last three years ;

(b) the expected rate of rubber production in the Seventh Plan each year and steps taken for the same ;

(c) the expected demand of rubber by the year 2000 A.D. ; and

(d) the land required for planting rubber, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) State-wise production of natural rubber during the last three years is as under :

	(Qty. in Tonnes)		
	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
Kerala	162,212	172,092	184,563
Tamil Nadu	9,736	10,603	11,025
Karnataka	2,785	3,095	4,090
Others	547	660	787
<b>Total :</b>	<b>175,280</b>	<b>186,450</b>	<b>200,465</b>

(b) Expected rate of production during the Seventh Plan period is as under :

	(Qty. in Tonnes)
1985-86	200,465 (Actuals)
1986-87	220,000 (Latest estimated)
1987-88	235,000 (Estimate)
1988-89	250,000 (Estimate)
1989-90	265,000 (Estimate)