

last year. Although there was a marginal decline of 48 tonnes, there was a substantial increase of Rs. 509.39 lakhs in the current year in value terms as compared to the corresponding period last year.

(c) and (d). As per the present policy, bottom trawling for shrimp resources is not permitted. Big size trawlers are not permitted to operate in inshore waters where penaeid shrimps are found. Hence increase in shrimp catches cannot necessarily be commensurate with the increased number of fishing trawlers.

Production of Silk

1710. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of TEXTILE be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of silk during 1985-86 and 1986-87 (first nine months) as against the targets fixed ;

(b) the export earnings therefrom during 1985-86 and 1986-87 (first nine months) as against the targets thereof ; and

(c) the measures taken during 1986 to increase the production and exports and to bring new areas/regions under sericulture ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) and (b). A Statement is given below.

(c) In addition to continuing sericulture projects and schemes, 2 new projects, one for the development of quality mulberry silk in Orissa and one for the development of tasar silk in Orissa & Maharashtra have been sanctioned during 1986. In order to bring new areas under sericulture, Central Silk Board has formulated sericulture development projects for Kerala and Bihar during 1986. In respect of exports, besides continuation of existing export incentive schemes, higher Cash Compensatory Support rates have been announced w.e.f. 1.7.1986 for silk garments, made-ups and sarees. In addition, the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council organised participation in the 2nd Asian Silk Fair at Hong Kong and also sponsored a Sales-cum-Study Team to Japan during 1986.

Statement

Required information in respect of silk production and exports

| | 1985-86 | | 1986-87 | |
|------------------------------|---------|-------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| | Target | Achievement | Target | Achievement |
| Production (in M. Tonnes) | 7600 | 7855 | 8000 | 3746** (April Sept. '86) |
| Exports (in Rs./crores) | 110 | 159.82 | 180 | 153.84 (April Dec. '86) |

**Production data for the period Oct.-Dec. '86 has not yet been compiled.

Casino Culture in ITDC Hotels

1711. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL :
SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal for introduction of "Casino Culture" in ITDC hotels is under consideration ;

(b) how far it will be beneficial to the development of tourism in the country ; and

(c) the impact thereof on the country's image ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD SYED) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Palace on Wheels

1712. SHRI NITYANANDA MISHRA : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that no publicity has been given in foreign countries about the 'Palace on Wheels' and other facilities for the tourists coming to India for visiting Rajasthan ;

(b) whether with adequate publicity and prior booking from the foreign countries the 50 per cent of the capacity of the train which is now going waste can be utilised ; and

(c) if so, the efforts proposed to be made by Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SYED) : (a) No, Sir. 'Palace on Wheels' has regularly been publicised in foreign countries jointly by Railway Board, Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation and the Department of Tourism till 1985-86. Commencing from 1986-87 financial year the entire publicity expenditure is being borne by the Department of Tourism.

(b) and (c). Adequate publicity and prior booking is likely to help in filling the capacity on this train. The overseas tourist offices of the Government of India presently undertake/propose to undertake the following activities for promoting the 'Palace on Wheels' :

- (i) Advertising in print media both consumer and trade.
- (ii) Extending brochure-buy-back support to tour operators/travel agents publicising India in general and promoting the 'Palace on Wheels' train in particular.

(iii) Organising India Evenings and Trade Seminars for promoting the train also.

(iv) Including information on this train in the Publicity material brought out by DOT and the language brochures printed by the overseas offices.

(v) Organising promotional seminars and talks wherein due attention is paid to promote this train.

(vi) Dissemination of information on this train in respect of postal or oral enquiries made by foreign tourists.

(vii) Improvement in the reservation system through the Railways/Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation.

Central Sericulture Project

1713. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Central Sericulture Project to be implemented with assistance from the World Bank ;

(b) whether the World Bank has approved the financial assistance ; and

(c) the steps being taken to reap the benefits of sericulture research in Japan ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) and (b). The details of the Central Sericulture Project will be finalised after the clearance of the Project by the World Bank.

(c) In order to reap the benefits of sericulture research in Japan, technical consultancy services of Japanese experts and training of Indian personnel in Japan are being availed of under Central/State schemes.