

**Development of tourist spots in Kashi  
Varanasi, Allahabad and Kanpur**

614. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are considering any proposal to develop tourist spots in near future in Kashi Varanasi, Allahabad and Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh with a view to attracting tourists; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM  
(MUFTI MOHD. SYED) : (a) and (b)

(i) *Kashi Varanasi*—A proposal for the improvement of Varanasi Ghats was sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism in 1984-85 at a cost of Rs. 64 50 lakhs.

(ii) *Allahabad*—A proposal for constructing a yatriniwas and one for introduction of Water Sports at Allahabad are under examination.

(iii) *Kanpur*—No proposal has been received from the State Government.

**Export of groundnut and oil cake**

615. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage fall registered in export of groundnut and oil cake;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) Whether it is a fact that there is great demand for groundnut in foreign countries; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to import edible oils ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.  
R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) Exports of groundnut and oil cake from India have been fluctuating for the last few years. A statement indicating the quantity and value of exports of both these items is given below. Export of both these items has shown improved performance during the first 9 months of the current year as per provisional estimates.

(b) The main factors influencing export of HPS groundnut are recession in the global market, upward trend in prices of oilseeds including groundnut in the domestic market and problem of aflatoxin in Indian groundnut crop which makes it unacceptable in the highly demanding quality conscious European market.

In the case of oil cakes, the international oil and cereal markets continue to remain depressed thereby affecting export of our products. There is also a quality problem with our exports of groundnut and cottonseed extractions due to presence of aflatoxin which has made it unacceptable to the West European countries which were our primary markets.

(c) There is demand for Indian groundnut in EEC and East European countries like USSR provided our stocks are free from aflatoxin and exports are made on competitive prices.

(d) The import of edible oils is being carried out by the STC on Government account keeping into considerations the requirements of the domestic market, domestic prices and availability.