

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) Export of jute goods from 1974-75 to 1976-77 has been as under:—

Year	Qty. : 000 Tonnes Value: Rs. lakhs	
	Qty.	Value
1974-75	583.2	29485
1975-76	516.3	24932
1976-77	452.7	9924

(b) to (d). Export of jute goods during April—September, 1977 has been of the order of 241.3 thousand tonnes against 185.0 thousand tonnes during the corresponding period of last year.

Although an increase is noticeable over the corresponding period in the overall export during the first six months of the current year, it is too early to judge if the trend will be sustained. The following important steps taken from time to time for stimulating exports, are however, being continued:—

1. Export duty on all jute products has been abolished.

2. Exports of some items of jute goods have been made more competitive in foreign markets and more remunerative to the manufacturers.

3. Public Sector Organisations have been actively associated with export of jute goods.

4. Liberal assistance is being given for Research and Development efforts for promoting new end-uses and reducing cost of production.

5. Cess has been levied on jute manufacturers to finance R and D activities through the Development Council constituted for the jute industry.

Works undertaken in North Bihar to attract Tourists

4189. SHRI SURENDRA JHA SUMAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places in North Bihar and the works undertaken there during the last three years to attract tourists;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to provide facilities required for attracting tourists at Sitamarhi, the birth place of Sita, Gautam Kund, the seat of Gautam, the great teacher, Kantaule-Darbhangha, the place associated with Ahilya and Bispi-Madhuhani, the birth place of the Great poet Vidyapati; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURU-SHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) No tourist facilities have been developed at centres in North Bihar in the Central Sector as within the resources available, the Department of Tourism is concentrating on the development of the three major Buddhist centres of Bodhgaya, Rajgir and Nalanda in Bihar.

(b) Not at present.

(c) Does not arise for the reasons stated in para (a) above.

नई दिल्ली और पन्त नगर के बीच दैनिक विमान सेवा

4190. श्री भारत भूषण : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या नई दिल्ली और पन्त नगर के बीच दैनिक विमान सेवा आरम्भ करने का प्रस्ताव है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो कब तक ?