

(c) whether he is also aware that the present market rate of turmeric is not economical to grow thereby resulting into agriculturists not growing and scarcity being created; and

(d) whether he proposes to remove the export duty so that turmeric growers of this country can grow turmeric this year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) The export duty on turmeric was levied with effect from 20th January, 1979. The revenue earnings from this levy have been as follows:—

Period	Rs. Lakhs
1978-79 (upto March, 79)	62
1979-80 (Provisional)	532
1980-81 (Budget Estimate)	700

(b) and (c). It is correct that the prices of turmeric have fallen. This is mainly due to the increase in production which was 146.8 thousand tonnes in 1978-79 as compared with 126.3 thousand tonnes in 1977-78. Despite the export duty, exports of turmeric amounted to over 18,800 tonnes upto December, 1979 as against a target of 11,000 tonnes for the whole of 1979-80. For improving the prices realised by the growers, other methods may have to be employed, such as purchases by official or co-operative agency at a remunerative price.

(d) The effects of the export duty on turmeric are being kept under constant review.

**मध्य प्रदेश में ऐतिहासिक महत्व के स्थानों का सौंदर्यीकरण**

1457. श्री एन. के. शंजवलकर: क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में ऐतिहासिक महत्व के स्थानों को और अधिक सुन्दर और आकर्षक

बनाने के लिए गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान की गई कार्यवाही का ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ख) उन स्थानों के नाम क्या हैं जो अभी तक उपेक्षित हैं?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री चन्द्रलाल चन्द्राकर) : (क) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान केन्द्रीय सेक्टर के अन्तर्गत मध्य प्रदेश में ऐतिहासिक महत्व के स्थानों को अधिक सुन्दर और आकर्षक बनाने के लिए कोई उपाय नहीं किये गये । तथापि राज्य सरकार ने खजुराहो के सम्बन्ध में, इस पर्यटक केन्द्र पर सुविधाओं के विकास को विनियमित करने की दृष्टि से एक महा योजना (भूमि-प्रयोग योजना) तैयार की है । इस महा योजना (भूमि-प्रयोग योजना) में पर्यावरण संबंधी सुधार हेतु किए जाने वाले उपाय भी शामिल हैं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

**Price rise in Cotton and Staple Yarn**

1458. SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the prices of cotton and staple yarn are increasing day by day, resulting in large number of unemployed among the weavers in U.P.;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to check the prices and bring them back to the level of 1977; and

(c) what other steps are being proposed by Government for the fair distribution of yarn to the weavers?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE, STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Prices of cotton and staple yarn have risen to some extent mainly due to fall in production following severe power cuts imposed on the spinning mills.

(b) and (c). Some of the important steps taken to check the prices and to ensure fair distribution of yarn to the weavers are—

(i) Through voluntary arrangements, the private mills affiliated to ICMF have agreed to provide 23,000 bales of yarn every month at ex-mill prices to the public distribution agencies in the States;

(ii) National Textile Corporation and State owned spinning mills have opened depots/sales centres at mill gates and important centres so as to ensure better availability of yarn to the weavers at mill prices;

(iii) the apex handloom cooperative societies and handloom development corporations in the States are being assisted by way of share capital contribution to take up distribution of yarn to weavers by direct procurement from private and public sector mills; and

(iv) permission has been granted to industry for using discarded spindles and relaxation given to waste spinning units for spinning even upto 40 counts.

#### **Breakdown in Steel Production Plants collaborated by USSR**

1459. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the recent discussions held by the Soviet Dy. Prime Minister Mr. I.V. Arkhipov, in March, 1980, the subject of breakdowns production in steel plants in India built with Soviet collaboration was discussed; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE, AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). There has been no break-down of production as such in any of the steel plants built in India with Soviet collaboration. Production has, no doubt, been affected adversely in all the steel plants due to inadequate availability of certain essential inputs such as coal and power. The question of dis-

cussing the subject of "break-downs" with the Soviet Dy. Prime Minister, Mr. I. V. Arkhipov in March, 1980 does not, therefore, arise.

#### **Banking facilities in Kizhattur in Malappuram District in Kerala**

1460. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are no banking facilities in Kizhattur and Vettathur panchayats in Malappuram district of Kerala;

(b) whether there is a growing need for banking facilities in these areas to meet the requirements of cultivators, traders and others as also due to increasing foreign remittances to people in these areas; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to meet the banking requirements?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT). (a) Information about availability of banking facilities is maintained by the Reserve Bank districtwise. However, it has been reported that a branch of the South Malabar Gramin Bank is functioning at Vettathur since February 22, 1978. This Bank is also expected to open its branch at Kizhattur, shortly.

(b) and (c). The Reserve Bank has indicated that even though Malappuram is not a deficit district in terms of banking coverage of rural and semi-urban population, it has permitted the banks to open branches at 23 centres recommended by the State Government in this district.

#### **Setting up of Charged Chrome Plant in Orissa**

1461. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of firms to whom letter of intent for setting up charged chrome plants in Orissa have been issued; and