

3. The sale of shares may be arranged by the Trust after getting advice from the Disinvestment Commission on the quantity and modalities and after Government approval for the Sale price and thereafter the proceeds will be transferred to Government.
4. The management of the Trust would be entrusted to a group of 5 eminent persons including a representative from Ministry of Finance.

Hike in Tea Prices

2161. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

- (a) the reasons for the hike of tea prices in the country;
- (b) whether the Government have prepared any action plan to increase the production of tea in the country during the current Five Year Plan period;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the quantity of tea exported as compared to target fixed during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) Rise in the prices of tea has been on account of higher domestic and export demand for Indian Tea.

(b) and (c) It is proposed to achieve annual production target of 1000 mn kgs. by the end of current five year plan i.e. 2001-02. Activities planned to achieve this target inter-alia include measures such as replantation, extension planting, setting up of new plantations, assistance to small growers in extension activities, development of tea plantations in non-traditional areas and research and development etc.

(d) Export of tea vis-a-vis the targets during the past 3 years have been as under:-

Export (Qty. in MN. KGS.)		
Year	Target	Achievement
1995-96	170	167.47
1996-97	180	169.04
1997-98	180	211.76

Tourism Projects

2162. DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of tourism projects submitted by the Governments of West Bengal, Kerala and Tripura to the Union Government during the last three years;
- (b) the number of projects out of these approved by the Union Government; and
- (c) the reasons for disapproving the remaining projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) and (b) Development of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. However, the Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance for development of tourism infrastructure based on specific project proposals received from the State Governments.

During the last three years, 26 projects were sanctioned for the State of West Bengal, 27 projects for the State of Kerala and 19 projects for the State of Tripura.

(c) 5 projects in respect of West Bengal could not be sanctioned during 1997-98, as the project proposals were incomplete.

Inspection of Private Sector and Good Rated Bank by RBI

2163. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether private sector banks are inspected every year by the Reserve Bank of India but the good rated banks are inspected at an interval of 1 to 10 years and the branches are visited on selective basis;

(b) if so, the number of private sector banks their branches and good rated private banks inspected by RBI during the last three years;

(c) if so, the outcome of the inspection of private banks and their branches and the action taken by the banks vis-a-vis the RBI during the above period;

(d) whether the private banks have implemented the follow-up action plan during the last three years; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE)(SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that inspection of private sector banks is undertaken by the RBI generally once in 12 to 18 months.

(b) The number of private sector banks and the number of branches inspected by Reserve Bank of India during the last three years is given below:

Year	No. of banks inspected	No. of branches inspected
1995-96	19	551
1996-97	28	557
1997-98	36	676

(c) to (e) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) carried out the inspection under Section 35 of the Banking Regulation Act.