

(c) and (d). TISCO is a Board-managed Company. The Board of the company comprised 19 Directors as on 1.7.1989, of which 2 were from Tata family, 2 were nominees of Public Financial Institutions, 1 was nominee of the Government of India and the rest were individuals/industrialists.

Foreign Tourists in Bihar

5841. SHRI RAJ MANGAL MISHRA:
Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to

state the number of foreign tourists who visited Bihar particularly Nalanda, Pavapuri and Rajgir during the last three years and the amount of foreign exchange earned thereby?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):
As per the information available from the State Government, the number of foreign tourists who visited Nalanda, Pavapuri and Rajgir during the last two years are as given below:—

| | <i>No. of foreign tourists</i> | |
|----------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| | <i>1988</i> | <i>1989</i> |
| Rajgir | 338 | 265 |
| Pavapuri | 22 | 75 |
| Nalanda | 141 | 108 |

The comparable figures for the year 1987 and State/place wise estimates of foreign exchange earnings from tourism have not been compiled.

[English]

Subsidy for New Rubber Planting

5842. SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the subsidy for new planting, replanting etc. given to the Rubber growers in Kerala by Rubber Board is quite inadequate;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to increase the subsidy reasonably within a fixed time frame;

(c) if so, the time within which it would be done; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (d). The rates of financial assistance given as subsidy to the rubber growers for new planting/replanting have been revised from time to time, based on the cost of planting and maintenance upto various stages. The rates in existence have been fixed in 1987.

The Rubber Board in the draft 8th Plan has proposed enhanced rates under various subsidy schemes.

However, pending finalisation of 8th Five Year Plan, it would not be possible to indi-

cate any time frame for implementing the revised rates, when fixed. The growers of Kerala would also be eligible for grant of subsidy as per the norms as available to growers all over the country.

Repatriation of Foreign Exchange in Diamond Exports

5843. SHRI KAMAL NATH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some instances of the non-repatriation of foreign exchange in diamond exports has been detected;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount of foreign exchange due in lieu of diamond exports;

(d) the total export of gems and jewellery during the last three years; and

(e) the steps contemplated to streamline the procedures so as to ensure due payment in time?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Certain instances of non-repatriation of foreign exchange of diamond exports have come to the notice of the Government. The magnitude of such outstanding realisation against specific exporters is being ascertained by the concerned agencies.

(d) Total exports of gems and jewellery during past three years is indicated below:

(Rs. in crores)

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Exports</i> |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1 | 2 |
| 1987-88 | 2652.56 |

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Exports</i> |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 2 |
| 1988-89 | 4565.28 |
| 1989-90 (upto Feb. '90) | 4689.85 (P) |

(Source: Gem and Jewellery Exports Promotion Council).

(e) Steps have been already taken by the concerned authorities to streamline procedures, and exercise surveillance to ensure realisation of export proceeds duly. The new Import-Export Policy (1990-93) correlates the issue of imprest licences and replenishment licences for diamonds with realisation of the export earnings in due measure. Strict screening of new entrants is being made by the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council prior to registration.

Staff Artist above 58 Years

5844. SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of category-wise, Staff Artists and Artists who are above the age of 58 years and are still in service;

(b) the provisions of the rules and regulations under which these employees are continuing in service beyond 58 years;

(c) the number and designation of Staff Artists/Artists who have been retired at the age of 58 years since April, 1988 without the benefit of pension; and

(d) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) The category-wise informa-