

- (d) Flood-lighting of monuments at Bijapur, Badami, Aihole, Pattadakal.
- (e) Construction of tourist lodge at Bhadra.
- (f) Sound and light programme at Srirangapatnam.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Are you prepared for this, regarding U. P. ?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Our Minister, along with the Secretary, has visited U. P. and had detailed discussion with his counterpart there. Certain proposals have been made by the State Government. When it comes to us we shall definitely consider them on merits and we shall take all steps to boost up tourism in U. P.

DR. V. VENKATESH : In view of the Bangalore City's excellent climate round the year, national and international conferences and seminars are going on in Bangalore city. Therefore, I want to know whether the Government is going to construct a seminar or conference complex for international conferences or seminars to attract more number of people... (Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Also one session of Parliament.

MUFTI MOHD. SYED : Sir, recently we held a meeting with the Chief Minister of Karnataka. It is a fact that Karnataka, especially Bangalore, has ideal weather conditions. It is a very nice city and we are proposing to have a multi-functional convention complex... (Interruption)

MR. SPEAKER : We are making it a concrete jungle now. We should try to safeguard that beautiful city.

MUFTI MOHD. SYED : We are proposing to have multi-functional convention complex here. It is estimated that it will have a capacity for 2000 delegates. It will be used for Exhibitions, Conferences and Cultural Programmes. It will be in the Joint Sector.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, like Karnataka, there are many ancient and historical places in Uttar Pradesh also, such as a place named Bithoor near Kanpur. It is said that this is the birth place of Nana Saheb Peshwa and Sitaji. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has received any proposal for the development of such places ? If not, will the Government make some arrangement for their development ? Government's attention has been drawn to it a number of times.

SHRI S. B. SIDNAL : Belgaum is on the other side of the State and has equal climate of air-condition like Bangalore. There are beautiful Scenarios, Temples and Falls which are more attractive to the foreign tourists who come from Goa which is close-by to Belgaum. May I know what is the proposal before the Government to attract the foreign and local tourists in this regard ?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : In the 6th Five year plan, Belgaum was also identified as one of the tourist centres. But Unfortunately, no proposal has come from the State Government. If it comes from the State Government then only we can consider it. Otherwise we are helpless.

Carpet and Pashmina Industry of J & K

*123. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the carpet and pashmina industry of Jammu and Kashmir considered to be one of the best in the World is lately, on the decline due to slump in trade as well as stiff competition from countries like Pakistan, Iran and China; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Union Government for improvement and revival of the old Kashmiri traditional standard and also for promotion of the carpets and Pashmina Industry of the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). A statement is given below ;

Statement

(a) Pashmina is not separately codified in Export Trade Statistics and data on export of carpets are not maintained on a State basis. Provisional export figures on carpets for the country during the last three years are as follows :

Year	Value in Crores
1983-84	147.7
1984-85	157.6
1985-86	159.92

The above figures do not indicate a decline in the export earnings, though the country is facing stiff competition from China, Iran and Pakistan.

(b) To provide additional impetus to export of carpets, the following steps have been taken :

1. A separate Carpet Export Promotion Council has been established, with adequate representation to the Kashmir region;
2. Cash Compensatory Support at rates varying between 8 to 18%, depending on FOB realisation per sq. metre and 12% on silk carpets have been announced with effect from 1st July, 1986. This has resulted in a 1% increase in CCS rates for higher knotted carpets.
3. Duty drawback @ 3% of the FOB value of export.
4. Import replenishment under the Import Export Policy.
5. Interest subsidy on packing credit at 3% compared to the 1.5% prevailing earlier till 30th June, 1986.
6. Duty on import of wool has been reduced from 40 to 20% with effect from March, 1986.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : The reply does not reflect much in regard to the Pashmina

industry of the State. Various Kashmiri shawls are made from Pashmina which has got great export potential. This raw material comes from Ladakh. In the light of this, my first supplementary is about the Pashmina industry. Is it not a fact that thousands of kilograms of raw Pashmina are being smuggled out from Tibet in Ladakh sector, of our country with the result that the price of raw Pashmina has slumped from Rs. 300 per K.G. to Rs. 150 per K.G. this year. This has resulted in great loss for the local producers. In the light of this, I would like to know what steps the Government proposes to take to save the local Pashmina producers of Ladakh and to promote the famous shawl industry of Kashmir and to step up the exports.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : In the first instance I would like to mention regarding Pashmina shawl, that there is no separate statistic are maintained for the export of Pashmina shawl. But I can tell the hon. Member that the export of shawls in the country have been like this : In 1980-81, the export were for Rs. 1.91 crores; in 1984-85 it has increased to Rs. 6.16 crores. As regards smuggling I do not know anything about it.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : You will be enquiring about it.

(Interruption)

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : My next supplementary is about the carpet industry. I would like to know whether it is a fact that countries like Pakistan, China and Iran are deviating from the production of traditionally designed carpets and creating new designs keeping in view the latest demand in the international market, while the carpet producers of Kashmir are sticking to their traditional designs, the demands for which are declining. In the light of this, what steps the Government of India is taking to produce new designs of carpets which are much in demand in the international market, whether the Government will buy the carpets produced in Kashmir by providing subsidy, as was done a few years earlier, to save the industry from the present glut in the industry.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, the hon. Member has asked quite a few

questions. So, I would like to answer the last question first, and then the first one.

There is no such glut that the Government of India has to intervene for purchases of carpets in Kashmir. No doubt, about four years back some arrangements were made to buy carpets in Kashmir when there was glut. At that time also fortunately I was looking after the Commerce Ministry and I had done this.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : There is no buyer at the moment.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Actually, if you look at the figures of the exports, you will find that exports for 1983-84 were Rs. 147.70 crores. In 1985-86 it has increased to Rs. 159.92 crores. So, it does not indicate that there are no exports. No doubt there is keen competition from Pakistan, China and Iran.

As regards the designs and other things, we have always been giving assistance. There are 75 training centres and quite a few are advanced training centres in Kashmir which provide necessary assistance to the weavers, to the producers, and we also sent experts from our technical Institute at Banaras for giving the advice.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Sir, with regard to the carpet technology, it has to be developed in a big manner. India has enough potential for it in order to develop carpet technology.

Sir, our Indian carpet is one of the best and even the workmanship is the best in the whole world. Such is the case. You have stated in your reply that a separate Export Promotion Council has been set up. Even the Export Promotion Council are not doing their job actually according to norms prescribed by the Export Promotion Council. I have drawn the attention of the Minister to this by a mention under Rule 377. But the Minister has not replied to me so far for the last three months. Any how, I am drawing the attention of the Minister now in this House to the fact that in Tamil Nadu Bhavani is a famous area for carpet technology. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether this Export Promotion Council has anything to do with Tamil Nadu,

whether they have got a scheme in order to develop Bhavani as the most important area for carpet technology, at least whether you would open a training centre at Bhavani.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : As regards the activities of the Promotion Council, it is naturally for promotion of exports.

As regards the particular place mentioned by the hon. Member, certainly we will look into it and if there is any justification and potential available, we will certainly do something about it.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : What about his 377, Sir ?

(Interruptions)

Export of Engineering Products

*125. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the top thirteen engineering companies with a total turnover of rupees three thousand crores export only rupees thirty crores worth of their products as has been revealed by a recent World Bank study; and

(b) if so, the specific steps being taken to overcome various problems coming in the way of raising the export of engineering goods ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) Government are not aware of such a recent study of the World Bank.

(b) A statement is given below.

Statement

Government has taken a series of measures for promotion of exports which, *inter alia*, include—

(i) changes, in the area of industrial licensing policies and procedures including broad banding of industries, simplification of collaboration procedures, expansion of list of Appendix-I industries open for investment to MRTP/FERA companies etc.