

of Tourism during the 7th Plan propose to construct a chain of Yatri Niwases in collaboration with the State Government/UT Administration with a view to providing clean accommodation for tourists both domestic and foreign. The tariff for the Yatri Niwases is expected to range from Rs. 15 per bed in a dormitory to Rs. 60 for a double room. These Yatri Niwases would be constructed selected tourist centres i.e. places of historical and cultural interests, holiday and mountain resorts, metropolitan and business-cum-transit centres.

Department of Tourism has set up a society called Bharatiya Yatri Avas Vikas Samiti for the construction of Yatrikas/Dharamshalas/Musfir Khanas at the important pilgrim centres in the country to enable persons belonging to middle and low-income groups to travel to places of religious and tourist interest.

In a recent State Tourism Ministers' meeting, State Tourism Corporation were requested to work out package tours for tourist spots within their jurisdiction. These could be inter-linked with package tours available in other States. Some of the States have already operated certain packages successfully.

Tourist Package Schemes for Public Servants According to their Salaries

1002. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMAN-GALAM : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to cater to the hotel needs of average citizen;

(b) if so, the details of the plan;

(c) whether Government propose to downgrade some of the existing losing and ailing hotels;

(d) the total annual subsidy provided by the Hotel Corporation of India for international travellers stopping in the country *en-route* and details of the new 'India on the House' scheme; and

(e) whether Government propose to

introduce tourist package scheme for public servants according to their salaries ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b). The Department of Tourism approves hotels including those of 1 and 2 star categories, which offer clean and comfortable accommodation for budget tourists. In order to further cater to the hotel needs of average citizens, the Department proposes to construct a chain of Yatri Niwases in collaboration with the State Governments/Union Territories. The Department has also set up a Society called the Bharatiya Yatri Avas Vikas Samiti for construction of Yatrikas, Dharamshalas, etc. at important religious centres in the country to provide inexpensive accommodation to average citizen.

(c) There is no such proposal. Classification and reclassification of hotels is linked with the standards of facilities and services provided.

(d) The India Tourism Development Corporation is offering a stop-over tour in co-operation with Air India to encourage long haul international travellers to stop over at the four international airports in India at \$ 19 for twenty four hours. The stop-over facility is not subsidised by the Hotel Corporation of India or any other agency.

(e) No such Scheme is under consideration of the Department of Tourism.

Proposal to Change Rules in Respect of LIC Claims

1003. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMAN-GALAM :

DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO :

SHRI MANIK REDDY :

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in a recent dog-bite case in village Bhadol in Gujarat, Life Insurance Corporation refused to admit a claim as