

**Assistance for Development of Tourism
in Kerala**

784. PROF. P.J. KURIEN:
SHRI T. BASHEER:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala Government has sent any new proposals to Union Government for the development of tourism in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken thereon by Union Government and the likely time by which these proposals will be cleared; and

(d) the total financial assistance proposed to be allocated to the State in this regard during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) to (d). The following schemes have been prioritised in consultation with the State Government of Kerala for the year 1990-91:—

1. 50 tents for trekking.
2. Water-side amenities between Cochin to Kottayam.
3. Visitor's Centre at Trivandrum.
4. Tourist Huts at Pathrinimanam.
5. Water sports equipments for Cochin and Kovalam.

However, projects with detailed estimates are awaited from the State Government.

Demand for Subsidy of Interest on Co-operative Loans

785. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Kerala has given any representation for allowing 5 per cent subsidy on interest for the punctual repayment of co-operative loans;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Union Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c). The State Government of Kerala sent a scheme in January 1990 to the Government of India an National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) which provided interest subsidy in the shape of payment of interest at 5% below the rate of borrowing by the loanees and the balance to be paid by the State Government to the Cooperatives. As Reserve Bank of India/NABARD are not in favour of any interest subsidy scheme, the proposal of the State Government was not accepted.

[*Translation*]

**Uniformity in Salaries and Other
Facilities to Employees and Officers in
Banks**

786. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring uniformity in the matter of salaries and other facilities being given to the employees/Officers of all the Public Sector Banks; and

(b) if so, the time by which decision would be taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b). The pay scales in public sector banks are identical for the workmen. There are, however, slight differentials in the pay scales of officers of Scale V and above between the State Bank of India vis-a-vis other public sector banks due to historical reasons.

[English]

Export of Buffalo Meat to Kuwait

787. **SHRI E.S.M. PAKEER MOHAMED:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 10 per cent cash incentive given by Government to meat exporters has been withdrawn resulting in increase in the price in the international market;

(b) if so, whether this has resulted in the boycott of Indian buffalo meat by Kuwait resulting in loss of foreign exchange; and

(c) the measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SHREEDHARAN): (a) and (b). Cases of Cash Compensatory Support (CCS) on exports are decided by a inter-Ministerial Committee of the Government, after considering the Cost Data submitted by exporters. After examining the cost data submitted by some of the exporters of meat, the Committee did not find any justification for granting CCS on frozen buffalo meat and hence CCS on this item was withdrawn w.e.f. 1.6.1990.

Our Embassy in Kuwait has informed that so far as they are aware, there is no boycott of Indian buffalo meat by Kuwait. It is too early to say whether withdrawal of CCS

has resulted in increase in the international prices.

(c) The exporters of meat have been advised to resubmit complete cost data to facilitate review of the question of grant of CCS.

Reduction of Public Spending

788. **SHRI ANBARASU ERA: SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has introduced a series of economy measures to reduce public spending in addition to 10 per cent cut in budgetary allocations of Ministries and 20 per cent reduction in their foreign travel expenditure; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Government has issued instructions for containment of public spending.

(b) All Government Ministries/Departments have been asked to absorb additional commitment on Dearness Allowance within the provision made for establishment expenditure. They have also been asked to locate savings within their budget to match the additional expenditure provisions sought for by them. The Ministries/Departments have been requested to review the whole range of functions being performed by them with a view to reduce functions and activities which are no longer relevant or can be performed more economically in some other way. Instructions have been issued to Ministries to wind up the foreign offices of promotional agencies under their control. Further they are to reduce expenditure on foreign travel to