

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, March 15, 1966/Phalguna 24,
1887 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Tourist Traffic

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*534. Dr. L. M. Singhvi:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri Daljit Singh:

Will the Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a substantial decline in the tourist traffic during 1965; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government to increase the tourist traffic?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Aviation (Shrimati Jahanara Jaipal Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

The estimate of tourist arrivals for the calendar year 1965 has shown a decline of 5.6 per cent compared to figures for 1964. Precise figures are still being worked out.

(b) A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5776/66].

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Are Government contemplating to make tourism in India more attractive and entertaining in terms of the suggestions made at one time by the Leader of the

House on his return from his visits abroad, and if so, what specific steps are proposed to be taken?

Shrimati Jahanara Jaipal Singh: Yes, the matter is under consideration.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: What steps are under consideration? That is what we would like to know.

Shrimati Jahanara Jaipal Singh: Three corporations have already been set up, one for the hotel industry, one for the tourist taxi service and one for tourism. All these three are examining all these points and considering in what way we can attract more tourists and keep them happy here.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: I am entitled to my second supplementary question but I would let Shri Jaipal Singh ask the second supplementary question instead.

Mr. Speaker: Would it not attract more tourism if a lady Minister is put in charge of it?

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: At least, let him ask questions on the floor of the House.

श्री विश्वनाथ पाण्डेय : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि देश के स्थानों को विकसित करने के लिये जिससे कि बाहरी पर्यटक आवें और वहाँ रहें सरकार क्या करने का विचार कर रही है, किन किन स्थानों को विकसित किया गया है और इस संबंध में सरकार क्या निर्माण करने का विचार कर रही है ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Aviation (Shri C. M. Poonacha): These places of

tourist interest are being developed by installing more tourist bungalows, by providing facilities such as taxi service, etc., and by arranging other facilities that are helpful for tourists to visit these places of importance. It is being worked out according to scheduled programme, and hon. Members would have been already aware of the fact that we have done quite a substantial and useful work in this direction.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि पर्यटकों से कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा प्राप्त होती है और क्या इस साल में कोई नये स्थान भी पर्यटकों के लिये विकसित किये गये हैं ?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: On a rough estimate, it is gathered that about Rs. 23 to 26 crores are earned by way of foreign exchange.

अध्याक्ष महोदय : क्या इस साल कुछ नये स्थान बनाये गये हैं ?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: The places which are of tourist interest are being developed and they have all been listed up, i.e., there is a phased programme of development.

Shri Basumatari: In view of the fact that the Assam State has full attraction to offer to tourists, may I know whether any proposal has been made by the Assam Government for their development?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: There have been some proposals submitted by the State of Assam and we are looking into this matter. As a matter of fact, there are certain proposals which have been undertaken by the Assam Government themselves which are now under way, and further arrangements are also being pursued vigorously.

Shri Kapur Singh: Do our Government ever honestly and manfully face the situation that our prohibition mania might be one of the reasons

that make this country unattractive to civilised people of the world?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: As to whether it is manly enough to consider prohibition issues, I cannot very precisely answer that point.

Shri Hem Barua: Is he not manly enough to answer it?

Shri Kapur Singh: If he cannot precisely answer the point, what is the use of his standing up and wasting the time of the House?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: I am only referring to his own expression 'manliness' with regard to prohibition. That was all I wanted to refer to.

Coming to the point, as for facilities to have liquor, tourists are free to get permits and there is no difficulty whatsoever in this regard so far as foreign tourists are concerned.

Shri Kapur Singh: He has evaded my question. Facilities for foreign tourists is one thing; imposition of prohibition quite another.

Mr. Speaker: He says prohibition might be there, but then they can get their supplies.

Shri Kapur Singh: Still the country becomes unattractive to civilised people.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know whether the recently held PATA conference made certain recommendations in this matter? How many recommendations have been made and how many accepted? Also, is the hon. Minister aware that tourists come here not to drink only but to see Indian civilisation, Indian culture and Indian traditions?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: That is correct. Tourist attractions are there. Each country has its own attractions to offer. In this regard, we have got special attractions for foreign tourists in this country.

श्री अचल सिंह : क्या मंत्री महोदय को मालूम है कि जो पर्यटक बाहर से आते हैं उन से बहुत ज्यादा चार्ज किया जाता है, इस वजह से टूरिस्ट बहुत कम आते हैं ?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: I do not think that is so.

Shri Warrior: Has it come to the notice of Government that in the famous game sanctuary of Tekkadi in Kerala, a portion of the forest is now being brought under cultivation for some other purpose and in that way the game sanctuary is spoiled so that more tourists are not attracted?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: I do not have any specific information on that point.

Expenditure on Rationing Organisation in Delhi

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- *535. Shri Madhu Limaye:
- Shri Kishen Pattanayak:
- Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
- Shri P. C. Borooah:
- Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
- Shri S. C. Samanta:
- Shri Subodh Hansda:
- Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
- Shri Hukam Chand

Kachhavaia:

Shri Jagdev Singh Siddhanti:

Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the entire expenditure incurred on the rationing organisation in Delhi is passed on to the consumer;

(b) whether any protest has been made by the Delhi citizens against this; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Govinda Menon): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

श्री मधु लिमये : क्या यह बात सही नहीं है कि केन्द्र सरकार ने इस बात का वायदा किया था कि सारे शहरों में राशनिंग व्यवस्था जारी करने पर जो खर्चा आवेगा वह पूरा खर्चा वह देगी ?

Shri Govinda Menon: Rationing is done by State Governments and not by the Central Government.

श्री मधु लिमये : अध्यक्ष महोदय, केन्द्रीय सरकार ने इस बात का ऐलान किया था— शायद सुब्रह्मण्यम साहब इस बात को जानते हैं—कि अगर हिन्दुस्तान के बड़े शहर राशन का इन्तिजाम करेंगे तो उसका शासन का या वितरण का जो खर्चा है वह केन्द्र सरकार करने के लिये तयार है। ऐसा उन्होंने कहा था। तो मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ ?

Shri Govinda Menon: This was decided at a conference of Chief Ministers; they took the decision that cities should come under rationing. The Central Government only announced what was decided at the Chief Minister's Conference.

श्री मधु लिमये : यानी खर्चा करने का प्रापने वायदा नहीं किया था ? तो मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न है।

हिन्दुस्तान के अन्य शहरों में जहाँ राशनिंग की व्यवस्था है वहाँ वितरण पर जो खर्चा होता है और दिल्ली में जो खर्चा होता है उसमें क्या फर्क है ? क्या दिल्ली की वितरण की योजना ज्यादा खर्चीली है ?

Shri Govinda Menon: In the other cities also, this is the rule adopted.

Mr. Speaker: Is Delhi spending more on administration?

Shri Govinda Menon: I have not made any comparison.