

and South Africa (November 22, 1993).

The Consulate General of India which is located in Johannesburg, South Africa, continues to be responsible for the promotion of cultural exchanges.

[*Translation*]

Facilities to Haj Pilgrims

1840. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:
SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI
ASHRAF FATMI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the various facilities being provided to Haj pilgrims by the Government;

(b) whether the Government have received any complaints in regard to these facilities; and

(c) if so, the efforts made by the Government to improve the facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Government facilities Haj pilgrimage by our nationals to Saudi Arabia. Haj Committee and Consulate General of India, Jeddah, jointly make arrangements for the accommodation of pilgrims in Makkah and Mdina. Additional staff is deputed to assist the pilgrims during Haj and a medical team is deployed in Saudi Arabia to provide necessary medical care. Medicines and medical supplies are also supplied. Haj volunteers called Khuddam-ulHujaj from various States accompany groups of pilgrims from those States. The Haj establishment of the Consulate General of India is strengthened by providing additional staff for the assistance of the pilgrims. Carriage

of pilgrims by air/sea is organised by Haj Committee with the support of the government. Special arrangements are made to facilitate completion of pre-departure formalities.

(b) and (c). From time to time, requests are made for augmentation/improvement of these facilities. These are carefully considered and every effort is made to rectify shortcomings and improve the arrangements. An exercise is conducted after every Haj to review the arrangements/facilities is consultation with representatives of the Central and State Haj Committees with a view to drawing lessons for the future.

[*English*]

LPT at Marthanam in Tamil Nadu

1841. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a low power TV transmitter at Marthanam in Kanya Kumari district of Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Marthandam in Kanya Kumari district of Tamil Nadu lies within the service area of the High Power (10KW) Transmitter functioning at Kodaikanal. Setting up of TV transmitter at Marthandam and other simi-