

[English]

Tourism Promotion Fund

2882. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Netherlands has expressed inability to kick off a Dutch guilder 3 million tourism promotion fund to promote the in-bound travel into India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to resolve the issue ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). No agreement could be reached on Tourism Development Fund in the last round of talks between the two Governments held in July, 1994 as the proposal of enhancing capacity entitlements made by the Government of Netherlands was not found acceptable.

(c) The two sides have agreed to discuss this matter further in the next round of bilateral air talks.

Tourism Development in J&K

2883. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:
KUMARI SUSHILA
TIRIYA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) Whether a number of tourists/pilgrims visit Vaishno Devi, Amarnath and other tourism centres in Jammu & Kashmir every year;

(b) the expenditure incurred during each of the last three years on construction of hotels, motels, yatri niwases and for providing other facilities to tourists in the State;

(c) whether the militants in the State have turned hostile to tourists/pilgrims;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard so as to ensure safety of the tourists/pilgrims ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An expenditure of Rs.3049.37 lakhs has been incurred towards the tourist facilities such as construction of yatri niwases, tourist bungalows, huts, approach roads, adventure tourism and infrastructural facilities and various other infrastructural facilities in the State of J&K during the years 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94, in the Central and State sectors.

(c) to (e). The tourism industry in the State has been adversely affected due to continued militant activities. There have recently been signs of improvement in the situation, particularly in the mood of the people who are fed up with the violence and activities of the militants. In the wake of this, some militant outfits are reported to have issued threats to tourists.

Certain pro-Pakistan outfits have also issued threats against the Amarnath Yatra.

However, Government are taking all necessary steps to improve the law and order situation and build confidence of common public so that normal activities could be resumed in the State. All the necessary security and other arrangements for the safe and smooth conduct of the Amarnath Yatra have also been made and these are being very closely monitored and reviewed.

[Translation]

Complaints received by SEBI

2884. SHRI ATAL BEHARI
VAJPAYEE:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN
PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of complaints received by the Securities and Exchange Board of India and various categories/types since its inception;

(b) the number of complaints disposed of till date;

(c) the action taken by the companies in regard to the dividend warrants sent to the share holders which have not been received by them have been misplaced in transit; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure timely payment of dividend to the share holders ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V.CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):
(a) and (b). The total number of complaints received by the Securities and Exchange Board of India under various categories/types since its inception upto 15th July, 1994 is 12,33,349. The number of complaints disposed of during this period is 5,36,302.

(c) In regard to complaints of shareholders about nonreceipt of dividend warrants, the companies generally issue duplicate dividend warrants to them after compliance with the necessary requirements in this regard.

(d) There are provisions in the Companies Act, 1956 for ensuring timely payment of dividends to shareholders.

Insurance Claims

2885. SHRI RAM PRASAD
SINGH:
SHRI MANJAY LAL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of claims of life insurance policis received by the Life Insurance Corporation during 1993-94 and the number of claims settled;

(b) the number of claims pending settlement as on March 31, 1994;

(c) whether any time limit has been fixed for ensuring payment of the amount of claims to the nominees of the policy holders after their death;

(d) if so, the details thereof;