

Tourism Promotion

1643. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state the steps taken to usher in greater co-ordination between the Union Government and the State Government for promoting tourism in the country?

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): The Union Department of Tourism coordinates tourism activities by having regular interaction with States/Union Territory Governments on the development of tourism in the States/Union Territories. Meetings are held with States and Union Territories at the official level to finalise the projects/schemes to be taken up through Central financial assistance. In addition Reviews are undertaken during the Tourism Ministers Conference, Regional Conferences, etc. of the progress of implementation of the scheme at the level of Minister (CA&T). Meetings are also held for the preparation of Master Plans by the States/Union Territories.

The State/Union Territory Governments are also consulted on various issues related to tourism promotion. Five Year Plans and annual plans are prepared after active interaction between Planning Commission and Department of Tourism at the central level and State/Union Territory Governments on the other side.

[English]

Tax Holiday to Hotels

1644. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to give a ten year tax holiday to the Hotels promoting tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c) Under section 80-IA of the Income-tax Act 1961, a deduction of 30 per cent of the profits derived from the hotel for a period of 10 years is already available to the hotel industry. In addition, hotels set up in remote areas, pilgrim centres, hilly areas or tourist centres are allowed a special 50 per cent deduction from gross total income for 10 years. Further, under the provisions of section 80HHD, deduction is allowed in respect of profits derived by tour operators, travel agents and hotels from service rendered to foreign tourists. These deductions are adequate incentives for the tourism sector.

Multinational Companies

1645. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have permitted the entry of Multinational Companies in the country;

(b) whether these companies will be governed by the existing rules for other companies;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the rules governing these companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c) Investment by foreign companies, including multinational companies, in Indian industry is governed by the framework enunciated in the Statement on Industrial Policy tabled in both Houses of Parliament on July 24, 1991.

(d) Approvals for investment upto 51% foreign equity in high priority industries listed in Annex. III of the New Industrial Policy is given by the Reserve Bank of India. All other foreign investment proposals are subject to approval by the Government of India based on clearances given by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board.

Reservation for Backward Classes

1646. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reservation quota of twenty seven per cent to OBCs is being given in all the advertisements of financial institutions;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to make the financial institutions adhere to the Government order on OBC reservation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India and LIC have reported that they did issued advertisements for recruitment to certain posts after the union Government instructions dated 8-9-93 regarding reservations for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) without providing for reservations for them owing to non-receipt of government instructions in their offices in time. RBI was advised to re-advertise these vacancies after providing reservations for OBCs in terms of government instructions dated 8-9-93. The RBI has since issued an advertisement on 23.11.94 providing reservation for OBCs. In the case of LIC, suitable provisions are being made to provide 27% reservation to OBCs in all the vacancies arising after 8-9-93, as per Govt. instructions and if required through special recruitment drive.

All the public sector banks/financial institutions have been instructed to maintain a revised 200 point roster for recruitment made on all India basis and separate 100 point roster for recruitment made State/Region wise which includes, inter alia, specified roster points to be filled by

OBCs candidates, in respect of all vacancies filled up after 8-9-93.

Winding up of Coffee Board

1647. SHRI K.T. VANDAYAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to wind up the Coffee Board;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the price of raw and power coffee is fluctuating;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the total production of coffee produced, total quantity exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to regulate the coffee prices and to make available coffee seeds/powder in the domestic market at competitive prices?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The price of Coffee in International market has been under constant flux for quite sometime now. Since the ICO moving average is taken as the floor price for domestic auctions, there has been fluctuations in domestic price also.

(e) The total quantity of coffee produced, exported and foreign exchange earned during each of the last three were as under:—

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Production (Tonnes)	Quantity exported (Tonnes)	Foreign Exchange Earned
1991-92	1,80,000	1,11,452	349.00
1992-93	1,70,000	1,13,602	381.31
1993-94	2,12,000	1,35,608	581.79

(f) The price of coffee had a sharp rise in international market pushing the domestic price upward. In spite of a bumper crop in 1993, because of the speculations in the international market, there were apprehensions about shortages in domestic market. In order to counter this trend and to ensure domestic availability, the Government had imposed a quantitative cap on exports of coffee at 120,000 tons till 31st December, 1994, apart from restricting exports of certain lower grades of coffee.

Wage Boards for Journalists

1648. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Wage Boards for working and non working journalists have since been set up;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which they will submit their report to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND HOLDING ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) The Government have constituted Wage Boards for the Working Journalists and the Non Journalists Newspaper and News-Agency employees, vide the notifications dated 2.9.1994 for the purpose of fixing and revising the rates of wages.

(b) A Statement indicating the detailed composition of the two Wage Boards is enclosed.

(c) No time limit has been prescribed for submission of the report by the Wage Boards.

Statement

Wage Board for the Working Journalists	Wage Board for Non-Journalists Newspaper Employees and News Agency Employees
1	2
Chairman Shri Rajkumar Manisana Singh, Retired Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court	Chairman Shri Rajkumar Manisana Singh Retired Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court.
Representatives of employees	Representatives of employees
1. Shri Naresh Mohan, (Indian Newspaper Society)	1. Shri Vishwa Bandhu Gupta, (Indian Newspaper Society)
2. Shri Pratap T. Shan, (Indian Language Newspaper Association).	2. Shri Abhay Chhajlani, (Indian Language Newspaper Association).
Representatives of employees	Representatives of employees
1. Shri Vikram Rao, (Indian Federation of Working Journalists)	1. Shri Madan Phadnis, (All India Newspaper Employees Federation).
2. Shri Arun Bagchi, (Andand Bazar Patrika)	2. Shri P.K. Mukhopadhyay, (National Federation of Newspaper Employees).
Independent Member	Independent Member
1. Shri S. Ananta Krishnan, Retired Chief Secretary of Kerala	1. Shri S. Ananta Krishnan, Retired Chief Secretary of Kerala
2. Shri R. Kanungo, Retired Executive Director, Coal India.	2. Shri R. Kanungo, Retired Executive Director Coal India.