

Flying Allowance

3912. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether some of the allowances paid to the employees of the Central Government and Public Sector Undertaking employees are exempted from Income Tax;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the flying allowance being paid to Indian Airlines employees is also exempted from Income Tax;
- (d) whether the Government propose to withdraw exemption to flying allowance; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). No, Sir. No specific exemption is available under the Income Tax Act, 1961 to the employees of the Central Government and Public Sector Undertakings. However, under the provisions of Section 10(14) of the Income Tax Act, 1961, certain allowances (a) granted to meet expenses wholly, necessarily and exclusively incurred in the performance of the duties of an office; (b) granted to meet the personal expenses at the place of duties or residence or to compensate him for the increased cost of living, subject to the notification in the Official Gazette are exempt. This exemption is available to employees serving in Government, Public Sector or Private Sector.

(c) Yes, Sir. Any allowance, including flying allowance, granted to an employee working in any transport system to meet his personal expenditure during his duty performed in the course of running such transport from one place to another, is exempt up to 70% of the allowance up to a maximum of Rs.3,000/- per month (w.e.f 1.7.1992). However, this exemption is not available if such employee is in the receipt of daily allowance in respect of said duty performed by him.

(d) No such proposal is presently under consideration.

(e) Not applicable.

Unintended Firing from Gun of Guard of P.N.B.

3913. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a clerk in the Connaught Place, New Delhi branch of the Punjab National Bank was killed and several other injured when the gun of the guard of the bank went off on March 30, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the compensation given by the bank to the kins of the bank employee killed and to those injured;

(d) whether the Government have issued any guidelines to the banks regarding the security system; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). Punjab National Bank (PNB) have reported that on 30th March, 1995, the gun of the guard at the ECE House Branch of the Bank went off resulting in death of one Terminal Operator (Clerk) and injury to another Terminal Operator. The Bank has paid a sum of Rs. 1,20,500/- as compensation and ex-gratia payments to the dependent of deceased bank clerk.

(d) and (e). The public sector banks have been advised of several measures for strengthening their security arrangements. These include classification of branches into specified categories depending on various factors, setting up of Central Security Cell in Reserve Bank of India for looking into all aspects of security and to provide guidelines to banks relating to security arrangements, constitution of State level security committees, etc.

[Translation]

Beautification of Sea Coasts of Gujarat

3914. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA :

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

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat for the beautification of sea coasts to attract tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount spent in Gujarat and other coastal States, State-wise, for this purpose during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). The Department of Tourism does not have any scheme for assisting State Governments for the beautification of Sea Coasts.

However, the Department of Tourism, Government of India has sanctioned the following projects for the development of tourism infrastructure on the coastal areas of Gujarat :

Name of the Scheme	Year	(Rs. in lakhs)
		Amount Sanctioned
1. Tourist Complex at Bhuj	1991-92	13.08
2. Preservation of beach resort at Chorwad.	1991-92	10.00
3. Cateteria at Porbandar	1993-94	14.60
4. Floodlighting at Somnath Temple	1993-94	17.46

(c) The amount spent in Gujarat and other coastal States State-wise for the development of tourism infrastructure since 1991-92 is given in the attached Statement.

STATEMENT

Statement showing the Projects sanctioned for Development of Sea-beaches

(Rs. in lakhs)			
S.No.	Name of the Project	Year of Senction	Amount Sanctioned
1	2	3	4
ANDHRA PRADESH			
1.	Beach Resort at Tupplipalem, Nallore	1991-92	7.00
GOA			
1.	Toilet facilities at Colva, Miramar and Dona Paula	1992-93	11.95
2.	Public Conveniences at Calangute Beach	1993-94	13.34
GUJARAT			
1.	Tourist Complex at Bhuj	1991-92	13.08
2.	Preservation of Beach Resort at Chorwad	-do-	10.00
3.	Cafeteria at Porbandar	1993-94	14.60
4.	Flood Lighting of Som Nath Temple	-do-	17.46
KARNATAKA			
1.	Public Conveniences at Gokarna	1993-94	3.21
KERALA			
1.	Integrated Development of Bekal	1991-92	190.00
2.	Beach Resort at Paravoor	1993-94	26.13
3.	Beach Resort at Chethala	-do-	24.69
MAHARASHTRA			
1.	Tourist Complex at Ganapatipule	1993-94	26.57
2.	Beach Cottages at Harihareshwar	-do-	24.88
3.	Tourist Complex at Kunkushwar	-do-	24.30
ORISSA			
1.	Yatri Niwas at Puri	1992-93	44.35
2.	Tourist Complex at Gopalpur	1993-94	38.23
3.	Tourist Complex at Paradip	-do-	32.58
TAMIL NADU			
1.	Flood Lighting of Mamallapuram	1991-92	9.98
2.	Beautification of Beach-Kanyakumari	-do-	6.00

1	2	3	4
3.	Yatri Niwas at Rameshwaram	1992-93	44.73
WEST BENGAL			
1.	Beach Resort at Shankarpur	1991-92	40.13
UNION TERRITORIES			
ANDMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS			
1.	Tourist Complex at Diglipur	1993-94	26.62
2.	Tourist Complex at Rangat	-do-	26.35
LAKSHADWEEP			
1.	Accommodation at Kodmat Island	1991-92	23.00
DADRA, NAGAR, DAMAN AND DIU			
1.	Visitors Centres at Daman	1991-92	10.74
2.	Illumination of St. Paul Church at Diu	1993-94	4.03
PONDICHERRY			
1.	Tourist Lodge at Karaikal	1991-92	21.95

[English]

GATT Agreement

3915. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Uruguay Round offers limited, conditional benefits' appearing in the Indian Express dated November 6, 1994;

(b) if so, whether the Government have examined the report; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) There are different assessments of the benefits of the Uruguay Round which vary depending upon the methodology used in the studies. In Government's assessment, the improved rules governing international trade and the market access opportunities created by the Uruguay Round in the areas of goods and services would, on the whole be advantageous to us in increasing our exports.

Chinese official sources at Geneva have denied any knowledge about the remark attributed to a Chinese official in the news item.