

**Trial of Hijackers.**

(b) No, Sir.

94. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been invited to the news item in Hindustan Times dated 16 February, 1985 that 'Khalistan' protagonists are sending a team of legal experts to Pakistan in connection with the trial of Sikh hijackers ; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) The Government of Pakistan have informed us that, under Pakistan laws, foreign lawyers are not permitted to appear before Pakistan courts but consultations can take place with foreign lawyers outside the court.

**"World Meet of Poets" At Delhi**

95. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the world meet of Poets was to take place in Bharat Bhawan (Bhopal) in the last week of February, 1985 ; and

(b) whether the venue had been shifted to Delhi at the eleventh hour ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) The Valmiki World Poetry Meet was originally due to be held in November, 1984 under the Joint sponsorship of Indian Council for Cultural Relations and Bharat Bhavan, Bhopal. The inaugural and closing sessions were due to be held in New Delhi whereas other sessions would have been held in Bhopal. The postponed Meet was held in Delhi March 1 to 7, 1985 under the sole sponsorship of ICCR.

**Decline in Tourist Traffic**

96. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of Tourism AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a sharp decline in the growth of tourist traffic in the country in 1984-85 ;

(b) if so, the main factors responsible therefor ;

(c) the details of the fall in the tourist traffic ;

(d) the target of tourists set for 1985-86 ; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to achieve the target in 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) to (b). Foreign tourist arrival during 1984, excluding the nationals of Pakistan and Bangladesh 852, 503 as compared to 884, 731 arrivals during 1983. The marginal decline was mainly due to internal disturbances in some parts of the country in the latter half of the year and their adverse media coverage abroad.

The proposed target for 1985 is one million tourist arrivals. The steps being taken to achieve this target include aggressive overseas publicity campaign with special emphasis on conference facilities, holiday resorts in India, stepping-up of public relation with tour-operators and travel agents, participation in international travel fairs and exhibitions, the development of infrastructural facilities and improvement of transport systems.

**Outlay for Women's Welfare in Seventh Plan**

97. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :