

(c) and (d). Yes Sir. General instructions have been issued that once all the formalities are completed the passports are to be issued within seven working days. Further, instructions have been issued to render miscellaneous passport services within three working days.

Hotel Projects of ITDC

653. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has changed its policy of constructing hotel projects by India Tourism Development Corporation;

(b) whether the IDTC is now permitted to enter into joint sector hotel projects with private sector companies;

(c) if so, the reasons of changing the policy decision in constructing hotel projects; and

(d) since when this new policy has come into force ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) The Approach Paper for the Seventh Five Year Plan approved by the National Development Council (NDC) in July 1984 recommended that private sector investment will have to be encouraged in developing tourism and public sector investments should be focussed only on development of support infrastructure.

(b) to (d). The ITDC is providing its consultancy, management and marketing services to the private sector companies. No proposal for joint sector hotels with private sector companies has been received.

"Action Plan to Control Pollution of Orissa Rivers"

654. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state whether an action plan leading to all-round environmental improvement in respect of some of the Orissa rivers, which are highly polluted, will be drawn up at some stage ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BIR SEN) : Yes, Sir.

Studies have already been initiated in respect of the rivers Brahmani and Mahanadi.

Subsidy for Installing Devices for Renewable Sources of Energy

655. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government gives any subsidy for installing devices which makes use of renewable sources of energy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the subsidy has generated adequate response in popularising such devices and if not, whether Government propose to increase the subsidy amount ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b). Details of Central subsidies provided through Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources, for installing various devices making use of renewable sources of energy are shown in the enclosed statement. In addition, in Photovoltaic area, a small pilot project for the supply of 100 PV pumps to individual farmers is being implemented as a part of National Solar Photovoltaic Energy Demonstration Programme (NASPED). The pumps are being supplied at a subsidised price of Rs. 4000/5000 to small marginal/SC/ST/ farmers. A subsidy scheme for Wind pumps has also been introduced by the Department of Irrigation. The State Governments/Union Territories of Bihar, Delhi, Gujrat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamilnadu and Uttar Pradesh give financial subsidy for Solar Cooker over and above the central subsidy. The State of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Tamilnadu, Haryana and Union Territory of Delhi are providing subsidy for solar water heaters in addition to central subsidy. Some State Governments like Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, give financial subsidy to certain categories of beneficiaries in addition to Central subsidy for biogasplants.