

Rate of Occupancy in ITDC Hotels of Orissa

1633. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the occupancy rate in the hotels maintained by the ITDC in Orissa during the last two years ;

(b) whether the rooms available in these hotels are sufficient and suitable for foreign tourists ; and

(c) the steps proposed to improve the tourist traffic to this State during this year and next year ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SYED) : (a) and (b) The occupancy of Hotel Kalinga Ashok at Bhubaneswar during the previous two years is given below :

Year	%age room occupancy
1984-85	46
1985-86	29
1986-87 (upto Oct. 86)	37

With a total number of 8 hotels functioning in Orissa in the approved sector and many others in the unapproved sector, hotel accommodation in the State is considered adequate.

(c) The following steps have been taken to improve the tourist traffic to Orissa :

- (i) providing basic amenities to tourists at Chandrabhaga, Konark.
- (ii) construction of Shopping Complex and Day Centre at Konark.
- (iii) setting up a Yatri Niwas at Satpada, Chilka Lake and at Konark.
- (iv) providing mini-buses, and elephants at Simlipal Wildlife Sanctuary.
- (v) tourism survey is being carried out to develop beach between Puri and Konark.

Cotton Monopoly Procurement Scheme in Maharashtra

1635. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has approached the Union Government for permitting the State to continue the Cotton Monopoly Procurement Scheme for another three years ; and

(b) if so, the decision taken in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) The Government of Maharashtra approached the Union Government for extension of the Cotton Monopoly Procurement Scheme for another ten years with effect from 1st July, 1986.

(b) The Government have decided to allow Maharashtra Government to operate the Scheme for a further period of three years with effect from 1st July, 1986 in its present form subject to the condition that their guaranteed prices shall be the same as support prices of different varieties of cotton approved by the Government of India.

Cheating of Foreign Tourists

1636. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether some cases have come to the notice of Government of cheating, touting, overcharging and misguiding of tourists by unscrupulous persons connected with the Ministry, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the action taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SYED) : (a) and (b) A few allegations of this nature have been received.

(c) The Matter is under investigation.

Japanese Assistance in overcoming Rise in Project Costs

1637. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Japanese Government has agreed to help India