

(a) whether the Planning Commission has agreed for a substantial increase in the plan outlay for tourism for 1988-89;

(b) the measures taken to promote tourism, both in India and abroad; and

(c) whether the number of tourist arrivals increased during the year 1987-88 as compared to the earlier years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) The Planning Commission has approved an outlay of Rs. 47.00 crores for the Ministry of Tourism for 1988-89 as against Rs. 33.30 crores for 1987-88.

(b) The Ministry of Tourism has taken several measures to encourage tourism to

India. These include undertaking sustained publicity and marketing campaigns in the overseas markets, development of infrastructure at centres of tourist interest, promotion of domestic tourism, construction of Yatri Niwases to provide budget accommodation, provision of yatrikas at pilgrim centres, development of beach resorts, improvement of facilities for skiing, mountaineering and trekking; promotion of adventure sports, preservation of national heritage areas, development of facilities along Buddhist circuits, promotion of wildlife tourism and provision of wayside facilities on Highways, etc.

(c) Yes, Sir Tourist arrivals during the last three calendar years are given below.--

Year	Number of tourist (excluding nationals of Pakistan and Bangladesh)
1985	836,908
1986	1,080,050
1987	1,163,774

[Translation]

Setting Up of T.V. Tower In Jhunjhunu

910. SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which a television transmitter is likely to be installed in Jhunjhunu; and

(b) the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI

H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) According to Frequency Planning, TV transmitter at Jhunjhunu (as also at a number of other places in the country) has been planned to operate on Ultra High Frequency (UHF) band. This is a new type of equipment whose indigenous supply is expected to commence in the latter part of 1988. The installation and commissioning of the proposed TV transmitter at Jhunjhunu would therefore depend upon the availability of the required equipment and the infrastructural facilities.

[English]

Damage to Rabi Crop In Bihar

911. SHRI RAM SWARUP RAM : Will the

Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have assessed the damage caused to the rabi crop in Bihar due to floods and supply of inferior quality of seeds and fertilizers; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to compensate the loss suffered by small and marginal farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Facilities for the Stay of Tourists in Delhi

912. CHOWDHRY AKHTAR HASAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether reports have been received that auto taxi-driver fleece the foreign tourists in Delhi and at other major airports by charging higher fares and commissions from hoteliers for their stay in the hotels;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM : (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) to (c). No specific cases have come to the notice of Ministry of Tourism. However, to prevent over charging, pre-paid taxi services have been introduced at Delhi, Bombay and Calcutta Airports. This scheme enables the passengers to pre-pay the taxi charges to the traffic police counter at the Airport and obtain a voucher for the same. This obviates any over-charging by the taxi drivers at the end of the journey. Steps to intro-

duce similar service at Madras Airport are in progress.

In addition to the pre-paid taxi service available at Delhi Airports, Delhi Transport Corporation and Ex-Army Transport Service offer economic transport facilities to and fro from Airport to the city. Also Complaint cards and latest scooter taxi fare rates in Delhi are available at the information counters of the Department of Tourism to provide information to passengers calling at these counters.

[Translation]

Demonstrations against Telecast of TV Serial "Tamas"

913. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been incidents of demonstrations in front of Doordarshan offices and relay centres to protest against the telecast of TV serial "Tamas" and damage to property; and

(b) if so, the names of the places where such incidents took place and the reaction of Government on the demand made in this context?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Demonstrations took place at Doordarshan Kendras situated in the following places:—

1. Delhi.
2. Pune.
3. Nagpur.
4. Bombay.
5. Nanded.