

[Translation]

Development of tourism in the hill areas

1787. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether a decision to make maximum efforts for promoting tourism in the hill areas of Uttar Pradesh was taken at the sitting of the Hill Development Council (U.P.) held in Nainital;

(b) if so, the follow up action taken for promoting tourism in these areas; and

(c) the amount likely to be spent on this account during the Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plans ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) By way of follow-up, an Action Plan for development of tourism in hill areas of Uttar Pradesh has been drawn up.

(c) The Central Ministry of Tourism does not allocate funds either State-wise or area-wise but scheme-wise. The Ministry provides central financial assistance to States for creation of tourism infrastructure on the basis of specific proposals received from the State Governments. As and when proposals are received from the State Government for central financial assistance for creation of tourism infrastructure in hill areas, these will be examined, subject to merits of the proposals, availability of funds and inter-sec priorities.

[English]

News item captioned "Kickbacks in Condom Imports Deal"

1788. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Kickbacks in Condom imports deal" appearing in 'Patriot' dated 7 May, 1988;

(b) whether sub-standard South Korean Condoms which were rejected by Government laboratory at Ghaziabad were mixed with better samples; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) Yes Sir. The import of condoms was channelised through DGS & D Deptt. of Supply. According to the clarification furnished by the Deptt. of Supply, order was placed on M/s. Radicura Pharma, Delhi on merits and allegations made in the news item are baseless.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. Only one batch out of five batches of samples received for pretesting has been found not conforming to Schedule 'R' of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules by the Central Indian Pharmacopoeia Laboratory, Ghaziabad and import of condoms of this batch has been disallowed.

Non-achievement of sterilisation target

1789. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the impact that non-achievement of sterilisation targets by different States had on the increase in population rate during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : If the shortfalls in the sterilisation targets for the three years 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 were to have been fully achieved, on the basis of norms used in the estimation of births averted, 0.49 lakh, 3.33 lakhs and 5.20 lakhs births respectively would have got averted in these years. Consequently the Natural Growth Rates, according to this calculation would work out as 2.12 per cent

2.07 per cent and 2.08 per cent as against 2.13 per cent, 2.11 per cent and 2.15 per cent estimated by Sample Registration System for the years 1984-1985 and 1986.

Gift Pouches for Passengers

1791. PROF. RAM KRISHNA MORE:
SHRI KAMAL NATH :
SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR
MANDAL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to introduce a scheme to present gift pouches containing toilet items to the passengers travelling by First Class air-conditioned compartments, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the daily estimated expenditure likely to be incurred on the schemes; and

(c) the reasons for introducing such a scheme having social distinctions ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) No decision has been taken in this regard.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Provision of drinking water to Hyderabad/ Secunderabad

1792. SHRI C. SAMBU : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for the provision of drinking water to the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad; and

(b), if so, the action taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Hyderabad Water Supply and Sanitation Project is presently under consideration for World Bank assistance. The outstanding issues are being sorted out with the State Government prior to negotiations with the World Bank Group.

[Translation]

Newspapers purchased by Air India and Indian Airlines

1793. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state the number of newspapers, language-wise, purchased by Air India and Indian Airlines during the year 1986-87 and 1987-88 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : In so far Indian Airlines is concerned, the number of newspapers purchased by the Corporation during the years 1986-87 and 1987-88 was as follows :

Language of newspapers	1986-87 (per day)	1987-88 (per day)
English	— 6989	4133
Hindi	— 1631	1853
Urdu	... 304	440
Marathi	... 196	350
Gujarati	... 148	260
Bangali	... 111	190
Tamil	... 329	400
Malayalam	60
Assamese	10
Telugu	— 45	24

As regards Air India, information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.