

and (b). Yes Sir, the room tax levied varies from 3% to 20% from state to state.

(c) and (d). The matter of abolition/reduction of hotel room tax has been taken up on many occasions at State Tourism Minister's and Secretary level Conferences. However, they have shown reluctance to withdraw it.

Alleged Corruption In Purchase and Supply of Food Items

3488. SHRISANATKUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any probe has been ordered into the alleged corruption and malpractices in defence purchases and supplies to Jawans in Madras and IPKF men in Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the approximate amount of which the Public Exchequer has been defrauded;

(d) the action being taken against the Officials who failed to adhere to prescribe procedures in the purchases and supplies; and

(e) the preventive measures taken for the future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) to (e). An Army Court of Inquiry is presently investigating into allegations with regard to the local purchase of food items for IPKF personnel in Sri Lanka. Further action in the matter will depend on the findings of the Court of Inquiry.

Atomic Power Plant in Andhra Pradesh

3489. SHRI C. SAMBU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct an Atomic Power Station in Andhra Pradesh as the previous proposal at Nagarjunasagar has been dropped; and

(b) if so, the new place to be chosen and the other details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) The recent decision of Government to locate twelve more atomic power reactors does not include Nagarjunasagar in Andhra Pradesh. Decision on sites for the remaining six reactors of 500 MWe capacity is yet to be taken.

(b) Site Selection Committee has submitted its report for the Southern Electricity Region in 1984 after considering proposals from the different States in the region. Any new proposals of sites by the State Government for sites other than the ones previously proposed by them to the Site Selection Committee will need detailed scrutiny and investigations.

French Collaboration in Aero Space

3490. SHRI V. KRISHNARAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether France has offered a package for collaboration with India in the area of aerospace;

(b) whether any agreements are being signed in this regard in the near future; and