

Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had decided to formulate the policy regarding Yatri Niwas based on the experience of 'Ashok Yatri Niwas' at Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are being worked out.

Conservation of Forests

4266. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether steps have been taken by Government for conservation of forests and prevention of illegal felling of trees;

(b) whether there is any proposal to formulate a National Forest Policy;

(c) whether some guidelines have been issued for surrendering the land under forest irrigation and other projects; and

(d) if so, the details in this regards ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Revision of National Forest Policy enunciated in 1952 is under consideration.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1095/85]

Financial Position of Kerala

4267. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) the assessment of the Planning Commission about the financial Position of Kerala;

(b) whether it is a revenue deficit State and

(c) if so, how the Finance Commission had a different view ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b). In the context of the formulation of the Seventh Five Year Plan, the preliminary assessment made by the Planning Commission in consultation with the State Government shows that, without taking into account central assistance, Market-borrowing and assistance from financial institutions, the State's resources for the Plan would be negative.

(c) The basis of the assessment of the Eighth Finance Commission is contained in its report which is available in the Parliament Library.

Alternatives to Fencing on Border with Bangladesh

4268. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :

DR. G. VIJAY RAMA RAO :

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY :

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether as reported in Hindustan Times dated 31 March, 1985 Government are considering alternatives to fencing on the border with Bangladesh;

(b) if so, whether Government's thinking has been crystalized; and

(c) if so, the details therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) to (c). The Government propose to resume the work of fencing along Indo-Bangladesh border soon.

Land under Environmental Hazard

4269. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether 175 million hectares of waste land out of 304 million hectares are now under environmental hazard;