

fusing to pay bonus in terms of the settlement. In its judgement dated 21-5-1976 the Calcutta High Court upheld the contention of the employees and directed the LIC to abide by the settlement in regard to payment of bonus. The Government preferred an appeal in that High Court against the above order which was heard on 9-6-1976 but as the LIC (Modification of Settlement) Act, 1976 had already been passed and notified on 29-5-1976 and which came into force w.e.f. 1st April 1975, the Court did not pass any order on the appeal. The above Act annulled those provisions of the 1974 settlements which pertained to the payment of bonus at 15 per cent of the annual salary without any ceiling.

5. The validity of the above Act has been challenged by two associations of LIC employees including the All India Insurance Employees Association. As the case is now being heard by the constitution Bench of the Supreme Court, the Government proposes to await the outcome of the case.

#### **Announcement of Generalised systems by U.S.A. Government**

2395. SHRI AHMED HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some generalised systems have been announced by the U.S.A. Government under which several thousand export items from India (including essential items) have been made duty free in that country;

(b) whether it will not reflect on Government of India's export policy;

(c) action proposed to be taken; and

(d) whether it has been decided to impose additional levy on the essential items on export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN  
THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE

AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

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

#### **Development of Tourism in Cooperation with States**

2396. SHRI SHIV SAMPATI RAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been considering to develop tourism in co-operation with the States in a concerted manner; and

(b) if so, the broad features of the proposal in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Governments have been requested to prepare perceptive plans of tourism development in their State as preparatory to the formulation of the Sixth Plan. A letter to this effect was addressed by me to all the Chief Ministers on 9th August, 1977. This matter was also discussed in the Tourism Ministers Conference held in New Delhi on 31st August, 1977.

It has been suggested to the State Governments that the tourist centres proposed for development may be divided into the following broad categories:—

(i) Tourist centres of national importance visited mainly by domestic tourists such as places of pilgrimage;

(ii) Tourist centres of national importance of interest both to international and domestic tourists such as places of historical, archaeological, scenic and religious