

Construction of Janata hotels at Delhi

2421. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to introduce Janata hotels at cheap rate in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to construct a Janata Hotel in Delhi.

(b) The main objective of the Hotel is to provide clean and comfortable accommodation at as low prices as possible for budget tourists, both domestic and international, with an emphasis on service. The Hotel will have accommodation provided in guest rooms for at least two persons, with basic minimum furniture. Most of the rooms will have attached bath-room, a few will be with shared bath rooms. Other facilities proposed in the Hotel include a cafeteria, an inexpensive restaurant, a multi-purpose hall, a shopping arcade and space for locating State Tourist Information Offices.

Central assistance to State Governments for construction of Janata hotels

2422. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NAWAB SINGH
CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state. Whether the Government will consider if the State Government ask Central assistance for the construction of Janata Hotels by the State Governments in case they are not able to raise the funds by themselves from the State Financial Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): The question of construction of Janata Hotels in the Central Sector and its providing assistance to State Governments is under consideration. The matter is under discussion with the Planning Commission.

Conference of State Chief Ministers for advance Plan Assistance

2423. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference of State Chief Ministers, for advance Plan Assistance over and above Plan Assistance for 1977-78, was held recently in Delhi;

(b) if so, the outcome therein; and

(c) the names of the States which took part in the said Conference and views expressed by their Chief Ministers?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). No Conference of State Chief Ministers was held to consider the question of grant of additional advance Plan assistance to States. Separate meetings were held with the Chief Ministers/Finance Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. In these meetings the States were urged to mobilise additional resources, effect economy in non-Plan expenditure, improve tax and non-tax revenues, speed-up recovery of Government dues, step-up collection of small savings and take other suitable measures to cover the gap in resources for the Annual Plan 1977-78 due to shortfall in additional resources mobilisation and erosion in resources due to tax concessions, relief to employees and

undertaking of additional non-Plan financial liabilities after finalisation of the Annual Plan. Many of the State Governments agreed to take these steps and reduce the gaps in resources. It was, however, found that there would still be large uncovered gaps. To enable the States to maintain the approved Plan outlays and keep up the tempo of development, it was decided that half of the residual gap in resources should be covered by additional advance Plan assistance. The position will be kept under review.

Proposal for Simplifying Procedure for Customs Clearance

2424. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to amend laws for simplifying and making quicker and easier procedure for customs clearance of passengers and cargo is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) expected time by which the laws are to be amended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL) (a) to (c) : The Government had appointed a Committee to review *inter-alia* the rules, regulations and procedures applying to international passengers and their baggage and to recommend measures to expedite the pace of clearance of passengers and their baggage. The Committee has since made some recommendations which are being examined.

Representation from a Mathematical Institute of Pune (Maharashtra)

2425. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representation dated 4th April, 1977 from Bhaskaracharya Pratishthan—a mathematical institute of Pune (Maharashtra) requesting the approval as Scientific Research Institute under Section 35(ii) of Income-tax Act of 1961;

(b) if so, what action have Government taken or propose to take in regard to the representation and when; and

(c) whether the concerned have been intimated accordingly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLA) : (a) Yes, Sir. A representation dated the 7th April, 1977 was received from Bhaskaracharya Pratishthan, Pune.

(b) The Pratishthan has been approved under section 35(1)(ii) of the Income-tax Act, 1961, vide Notification No. 1997 dated 24th September, 1977.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Pratishthan has been intimated of the above approval and they have also acknowledged the notification issued.

Projects in Kerala for which World Bank assistance sought

2426. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) a brief outline of the projects of Kerala for the execution of which