

the timely publication of Customs and Central Excise Manuals, Tariffs, notifications etc. for the use of department as well as for sale to the public. The Directorate is printing and making available copies of Customs and Central Excise notifications issued by this Ministry. The 1980 Edition of the Central Excise Tariff has already been brought out for sale to the public at a reasonable price and the Customs Tariff is expected to be brought out shortly.

Guidelines for Foreign Posting of Officers of A.I.

2697. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased state:

(a) whether there exist any guidelines for the Air-India in the matter of: foreign posting of officers of Traffic and Commercial Departments; if so, what;

(b) the number of officers who after having been given more than 3 postings abroad in South East Asia consecutively were given during this year 4th posting in the United States;

(c) how the suitability for such 4 postings—one after another—in an individual case is determined and the reasons for not giving equal chance to all officers in the grade for such foreign postings; and

(d) the tenure for foreign posting in the States at off-line Stations and after how many years service abroad, the officers are brought back to India?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir. For holding a representational post abroad, satisfactory record of work, experience in functional areas and ability in public relations and marketing are some of the criteria laid down.

(b) None in the Commercial Department.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The tenure of postings anywhere abroad, including off-line stations in the U.S.A., is three to four years, which may be extended to a maximum of six years by the management in the interest of the Corporation.

Joint Tourism Development Programme for Southern States

2698. SHRI K. MALLANNA:

SHRI HIRALAL R. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a joint development programme is being formulated by the Tourism Corporations of several states in the South to attract tourists in this part of the country;

(b) whether the Union Government had helped to work out details of the programme and extended assistance for its implementation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) A Conference of Chairmen and Managing Directors of Tourism Development Corporations of the Southern States was held on 30-10-1980 at Hyderabad to discuss ways and means to promote tourism in their States jointly in an integrated and coordinated manner. Representatives of Tourism Development Corporations of Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu, Kerala and Karnataka attended the above Conference.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.