

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHUR-SHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) The cost of tourist complexes varies considerably depending upon the type tourists they are proposed to cater to and the actual facilities provided. Only in the case of high star category hotels and some specialised resorts such as those offering skiing and mountaineering and sea-side resorts that foreign exchange expenditure is involved. In the case of high star category hotels the foreign exchange component normally ranges between 5 per cent to 10 per cent of the total capital cost.

(b) Being a service-oriented activity, tourism creates rather than takes away jobs from the local people by providing employment either directly in manning tourist facilities or indirectly through the manufacture and sale of souvenirs and handicrafts, supply of provisions and other items to tourist accommodation establishments, etc.

(c) and (d). Whereas the Government is encouraging promotion of tourism, the actual tours are organised by travel agents. The travel agents promote individual and package tours for small groups. There is no mass tourism to India.

**Plan to reduce gap between the salaries of managerial staff and their subordinates**

210. SHRI SATYA SADHAN  
CHAKRABORTY:

SHRI E. BALANANDAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to reduce the gap between the salaries of the managerial staff and their subordinates either by reducing

the salaries and perks of the managerial staff or by equitably enhancing the salaries of the subordinates under the managerial staff;

(b) if so, details of the plan, if any;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) efforts made, if any, in the past in this direction and the results achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) to (d). Government's policy is to ensure that the emoluments structure in public enterprises are, rationalised to maintain the relativities between the managerial staff and their subordinates. In this process if distortions and inequities are found, these are corrected while effecting revision of pay scales, allowances and perks.

**Inflow/outflow of Air passengers of Amritsar-Birmingham Flight**

211. SHRI R. L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new flight from Amritsar to Birmingham, has been commissioned and if so, what is outflow and in-flow of air passengers by this flight so far;

(b) whether the passenger potential of this flight is adequate to increase the number of flights and if so, whether Government propose taking a decision in this regard shortly; and

(c) the number of foreign tourists who are availing of the flight for coming to India and whether Govern-

ment propose to augment tourist facilities at Amritsar so that it may help the country to earn better foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) Effective from 3rd January, 1982 Air-India introduced twice weekly flights via Amritsar to Birmingham. Passenger uplift on nine flights which operated in the month of January, 1982 is as follows:—

Birmingham—Amritsar— 243

Amritsar—Birmingham— 362

(b) At present twice weekly operation is adequate to cater to the traffic potential. If additional flights are warranted by growth in traffic potential, the position will be reviewed.

(c) The present traffic between Birmingham and Amritsar is mostly ethnic. At present in Amritsar there are four hotels on the approved list of the Department of Tourism with 123 rooms. Two hotel projects have been approved which when completed will add 284 rooms to the existing capacity.

#### Wholesale Price Index

212. SHRI R. L. BHATIA:

SHRI G. NARSIMHA  
REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during last six months there has been a steady fall in the wholesale price index in the country;

(b) if so, the commodities where the price level has remained steady or has fallen during this period;

(c) whether the fall in wholesale prices has recorded a reciprocal fall in the retail price level of commodities and if not, whether Government have tried to find out how this is being cornered by the middlemen and if so, their findings in this regard; and

(d) whether Government propose considering to take over the wholesale trade of foodgrains so that the common man gets the benefit of fall in wholesale prices and if so, by what time a decision in this regard will be taken?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE  
(SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE):

(a) and (b). The Wholesale Price Index (1970-71—100) declined by 2.5 per cent in the last six months i.e. between July, 1981 and January, 1982. A statement showing percentage variations in various groups/sub-groups and commodities is attached.

(c) The Wholesale Price Index and the All India consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (which is used for measuring changes in retail consumer prices) have different composition and are based on different weighting patterns. Thus, the two series cannot move in absolutely identical fashion. The divergent movements in the two series do not establish *ipso facto* that middlemen have cornered the commodities.

(d) There is no proposal, as of now, under the consideration of Government to take over the wholesale trade of foodgrains. It may be mentioned in this connection, that Government protects the interests of the consumer by catering to their basic minimum requirements of foodgrains, at fixed prices, through the public distribution system. Government is also adequately equipped with powers to deal with anti-social elements indulging in black-marketeering, hoarding and profiteering.