

2. Travellers Lodge and Restaurant at Ajanta and Ellora.
3. Travellers Lodge at Sanchi.
4. A four star hotel at Kushinagar by ITDC.
5. A four star hotel at Varanasi near Sarnath by ITDC.
6. Buddhist Style Inns at Kushinagar and Sravasti by M/s. Hotel Corporation of India and Hokke Club of Japan.
7. Expansion of the Travellers Lodge at Bodh Gaya by ITDC.

(b)	1980	1981	1982
	112,845	122,151	122,634

(c) Statistics of international tourists visiting India are compiled on all-India basis and not on place-wise basis.

(d) The Department of Tourism undertakes extensive publicity to encourage Buddhist traffic from abroad through Press advertising, screening of films, distribution of literature, dissemination of information and brochures and through hosting of travel agents on educational tours and travel writers. In particular a new train called 'The Great Indian Rover' will also shortly be introduced by the Indian Railways touching the various sites of Buddhist interest such as Bodh Gaya, Nalanda, Rajgir, Sarnath, Vaishali and Lumbini.

#### Customs Raids in Gujarat

7465. SHRI MOHAN LAL PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of raids carried out by the Customs Department to curb smuggling activities in Gujarat during the year 1982 ;

(b) the quantum and the value of the goods seized during the raids ;

(c) the number and nationalities of the persons arrested in this connection ; and

(d) what more steps are being taken to check the smuggling ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAT-TABHI RAMA RAO) : (a) The number of searches of premises carried out by the Customs authorities in Gujarat under section 105 of the Customs Act, 1962 during the year 1982 is 758.

(b) The value of contraband goods seized during such searches is about Rs. 2.27 crores.

(c) The total number of persons arrested in this connection is 53, out of which one is a Pakistani national and another is a British national of Indian origin.

(d) The field formations in the region have been alerted to remain vigilant. The preventing and intelligence machinery of the customs department in Gujarat has been geared up and appropriate anti-smuggling measures have been taken in close co-ordination with the concerned Central and State Government authorities. The matter is also kept under constant review.

#### Progress in Construction of Yatri Niwas New Delhi

7466. SHRI MOHAN LAL PATEL : Will the Minister of TOURISM and CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) what is the progress in regard to the construction of Yatri Niwas in New Delhi ;

(b) what was the target date for its completion ;

(c) what are the reasons for the delay ;

(d) by when it will be ready and start functioning ; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to construct such Niwases in other parts of the country also, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM & CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) 377 rooms are ready in Ashok Yatri Niwas, New Delhi. Certain works such as, installation of sanitary fixtures, polishing/white-washing, fixing of glass panes, external cladding, etc. are being completed in the remaining 181 rooms.

(a) and (c) The hotel could not be completed by March, 1982, the target date, for the following main reasons :

- (i) inability to mobilise adequate manpower, equipments and resources by the Civil Contractor ;
- (ii) acute shortage of building material e.g. cement, steel etc. ;
- (iii) delay in getting the building plans approved by the NDMC because of revision of norms by DDA for car parking. This delayed for provision of water electricity connections ;
- (iv) inadequate working space available for carrying out the works of the project ; and
- (v) increase in the scope of the project by addition of one more guest-room floor and two floors of the shopping complex.

(d) The hotel has been partially commissioned with effect from 18th October, 1982 and is expected to be fully completed by the end of June, 1983.

(e) ITDC's Sixth Plan does not include any proposal to construct such Yatri Niwases in other parts of the country.

#### Indo-Malaysian Cooperation in Defence Needs

7467. SHRI B.V. DESAI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Malaysia decided to extend their cooperation in the field of equipment to meet Malaysia's defence needs ?

(b) if so, whether any agreement in this regard was signed when the Chief of Indian Naval Staff visited that country ;

(c) if so, the details of the agreement reached ; and

(d) to what extent India will provide assistance to them ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### Cash Compensatory Support for Hessian.

7468. SHRI N. E. HORO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Union Government's clarification about cash compensatory support for hessian has only added to the confusion; and

(b) if so, the details and the corrective measures proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA); (a) No, Sir.