

(a) whether there has been increase in State-sponsored Corporations in different States, which usually are losing establishments;

(b) if so, whether some guidelines have been issued by the Central Government to the States to restrict the number of corporations so as to conserve financial resources; and

(c) if so, what are the details of such guidelines and the follow-up action by the Central Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO) : (a) According to information available the total number of state sponsored enterprises have increased from 432 in 1976-77 to 664 in 1981-82.

(b) and (c) While examining the working of the State Plans with reference to the position of resources, Ministry of Finance has advised the state Governments to undertake a close review of the performance of the various enterprises with a view to ensuring economies in their managements. The State Governments were requested to keep the Ministry of Finance informed of the results of their review.

Replies have been received from a few States that necessary action has been initiated for a review of the performance of the enterprises up by them.

Cardamom Plantation in Kerala

4343. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL :

SHRI A. NEELALOHITHA
DASAN NADAR :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of steps to be taken by the Cardamom Board to help ease the situation of cardamom plantation created in Kerala by the recent drought; and

(b) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) and (b) Government have sanctioned the Cardamom Replantation Scheme for implementation by the Cardamom Board from 1983-84. Under this scheme, the Cardamom Board will provide subsidy at the rate of Rs. 2500/- per hectare for small growers owning cardamom plantation upto 8 hectares. The Board will also provide interest subsidy at the rate of 3% on the maximum amount of Rs. 7750/- per hectare, obtained as loan from financial institutions.

Also the Cardamom Board provides sprinkler irrigation equipments on Hire Purchase terms to the planters. The Board also supplies Cardamom seedlings free of cost and plant protection equipments and fertilizers at subsidised rates.

Stress on Promotion of Internal Tourism

4344. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has laid greater emphasis on the promotion of internal tourism;

(b) if so, the Central assistance provided to different states for this purpose; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) The Ministry of Tourism lays due emphasis on the promotion of internal tourism.

(b) and (c) The Central assistance for tourism schemes is not provided statewide but scheme-wise. The tourism Schemes are selected and implemented in consultation with State Governments. Details are given below :

The Department of Tourism has constructed and commissioned 18 Youth Hostels in the country at Amritsar, Dalhousie, Aurangabad, Bhopal, Darjiling, Jaipur, Madras, Panchkula, Patnitop, Panaji, Puri, Gandhinagar, Hyderabad, Nainital, Trivandrum, Mysore, Pondicherry and Port Blair. The Youth Hostels have 44-46 beds accommodation. The accommodation charges are Rs. 5/- in the plains areas and Rs. 6/- in the hill areas, per person per day. These 18 Youth Hostels were constructed at a cost of Rs. 109.16 lakhs.

Besides the above, as part of the Ministry's drive to promote domestic tourism, nine Tourist Bungalows were constructed in the Fourth Five Year Plan period at Porbander, Ludhiana, Rameshwaram, Darjeeling, Jaisalmer, Dharamsala, Mantralayam, Warangal and Sewagram. These Tourist Bungalows are being managed by the State Government. The construction cost of these Bungalows was Rs. 73.17 lakhs.

In the current Plan 1980-85, it is proposed to construct nine more Youth Hostels in the Eastern and North Eastern States at Patna, Namchi (Sikkim), Shillong, Gauhati, Imphal, Itanagar, Aizwal, Agartala and Dimapur. These are in various stages of implementation. The estimated cost of construction of all these Tourist Hostels is about Rs. 280 lakhs.

The Ministry of Tourism has also registered a Society called Bharatiya Yatri Avas Vikas Samiti for construction/expansion of Yatrikas (Dharamshala/Musafir Khanas/Sarais), to help Domestic/Pilgrim Tourism all over the country, particularly from the weaker sections of society. This Ministry has so far released Rs. 15 lakhs to the Samiti. The Samiti has already constructed accommodation at Amarkantak. The construction of a Yatrika each at Chitrakoot and Vrindavan is in progress. The Samiti is finalising the formalities for the construction of Yatrikas at a number of other pilgrim centres. The Ministry of Tourism has also set up the Indian Institute of Mountaineering and Trekking to give mountaineering training to the Indian Youth. The Ministry has also released Rs. 12.88 lakhs for purchase of Trekking

equipment to the Governments of Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

In consultation with the State Governments, the Ministry of Tourism has identified 61 travel circuits with 441 Tourist Centres. These will be developed as tourism infrastructure for international as well as domestic tourist traffic and will be taken up in a phased manner subject to availability of funds and are their interse priorities. The funds to the development will be pooled from Central/State/Private sources. In addition, the Ministry of Tourism has contributed Rs. 3 lakhs towards the cost of construction of the building of the Youth Hostels Association of India in New Delhi and also Rs. 6 lakhs towards the construction cost of Vishva Yuvak Kendra, Circular Road, Chanakya Puri, New Delhi. The Ministry of Tourism has been releasing Rs. 12,000/- annually towards the salary of the Warden and Assistant Warden of each Youth Hostel. This Ministry also releases Rs. 10,000/- per year for office expenses of Youth Hostels Association of India, New Delhi. This Ministry has also constructed the 558-room/1264 bed Ashok Yatri Niwas at New Delhi to cater to the requirements primarily of domestic tourists.

Bank Frauds

4345. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT:

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of bank frauds occurred during 1982 and 1983 (June ending) and the total amount involved therein;

(b) in how many cases the RBI/Police/CBI have taken the action, the result of the actions and the money recovered therefrom in the above year;

(c) whether Government propose the systems and procedures in the Bank to be computerised; and

(d) what are the guidelines the RBI has given to check the frauds and taking stern