

(b) whether there is any proposal to construct a big hotel in Madras for catering to the tourists; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Department of Tourism has approved private sector plans for five new hotel projects in Madras from the point of view of their suitability for foreign tourists. There is no proposal at present to construct a hotel in Madras in the public sector.

Development of Places of Tourist Importance in Tamil Nadu

1382. SHRI MURASOLI MARAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the places in Tamil Nadu which are proposed to be developed as places of tourist importance?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : During the Fourth period it is proposed to construct a youth hostel at Madras and augment accommodation in the Traveller's Lodges at Mahabalipuram and Madurai. A son-et-lumiere spectacle will be mounted at Mahabalipuram. An amount of Rs. 60,000/- has been sanctioned as grant-in-aid to the Kodaikanal Boat Club for providing additional facilities.

Publicity regarding Temples and other Places of Interest in South India

1383. SHRI MURASOLI MARAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a widespread feeling that temples and other places of interest in South India are not given wide publicity in foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard with a view to attracting more foreign tourists to India?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) :

(a) and (b). Government is not aware of any

such feeling. In fact, temples and other places of tourist interest in South India are given wide publicity in foreign countries with a view to attracting more foreign tourists to India.

Merger of Imperial Chemical Industries with Atlas Chemical Industries of U.S.A.

1384. SHRI H. M. PATEL : Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the merger of Imperial Chemical Industries with Atlas Chemical Industries of U.S.A.

(b) whether the Atlas Chemical Industries have a sizeable equity interest in Indian Detonators Ltd ;

(c) whether the proposed merger will not result in the control of Indian Detonators by the Imperial Chemical Industries Limited ; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to take any steps to prevent such development ?

THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY) : (a) There is a reference to the proposed merger of M/s. Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd., U. K. with M/s. Atlas Chemical Industries Inc., U.S.A. in the address of the Chairman of the former company published in The Economist, London, May 8, 1971.

(b) Atlas Chemical Industries Inc., U.S.A., holds 50% of the shares in Indian Detonators Ltd.

(c) On the proposed merger, 50% of the shares of the Indian Detonators Ltd. held by the Atlas Chemical Industries will pass to the new company.

(d) As both the companies, i. e. Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd. and Atlas Chemical Industries are not incorporated in India the question of taking steps to prevent merger does not arise.

Air-India's Package Tourist Plan at Reduced Fares

1385. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India's package tourist