

"Second Generation" of Vijayanta Tank

1895. SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the "Second generation" of Vijayanta tank is now being planned; and

(b) if so, the nature of its design and when it would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. An improved version of Vijayanta tank has been designed to provide for better ballistic shape and immunity, better observation facility and integrated night vision with fighting ability.

Prototype trials are being planned and production will commence on completion thereof.

Steps to improve tourist facilities in state

1896. SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF : Will the Minister of TOURISM & CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the steps Government propose to take for improving tourist facilities in Mysore State;

(b) whether the State Government of Mysore has also requested the Central Government to assist the State in improving the tourist spots in the State; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Central Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : (a) to (c). A statement indicating the schemes being implemented by the Government of India for improvement and augmentation of tourist facilities in Mysore State is attached. These schemes have been

approved after taking into consideration the requests received from the State Government from time to time.

Statement

1. Youth Hostel at Hampi.
2. Rest House at Bandipur Wild Life Sanctuary.
3. Rest House at Dandeli Wild Life sanctuary.
4. Provision of two mini-buses, one each at Dandeli and Bandipur Wild Life Sanctuary.
5. Tourist Lodge at Badami
6. Tourist Lodge at Jog Falls
7. Dormitory type accommodation at Hassan
8. Restaurant at Pattadakal or Aiholi.
9. Conversion of Lalit Mahal Palace at Mysore into a hotel and putting up additional accommodation there.
10. Provision of water supply at Aiholi.
11. Under the Hotel Development Loan scheme, two loans of Rs. 92 lakhs have been approved for two hotel projects in the private sector.

The India Tourism Development Corporation, a Public Sector Undertaking, has also provided following facilities for tourists;

1. A 91 room luxury Hotel at Bangalore. It is proposed to expand the hotel by adding another 100 rooms.
2. Accommodation at Travellers Lodge, Hassan, has been expanded by adding an additional wing of 20 double rooms.
3. Travellers Lodge at Bijapur and a restaurant at Hampi are managed by the India Tourism Development Corporation.
4. Transport units have been set up at Bangalore and Hassan.