

PROPOSALS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF TOURIST SPOTS IN NORTH-WESTERN STATES BY I.T.D.C.

5148. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) a brief outline of the proposals of the I.T.D.C. for the development of tourist spots in the North-Western States of Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Haryana; and

(b) the likely pattern of cooperation with the State Governments concerned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI) :

(a) Subject to their economic viability being established the expansion of Travellers Lodges at Kulu and Manali, construction of a hotel at Gulmarg and motels at Pahalgam and Amritsar will be taken up by the India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) in the Fifth Plan period.

(b) State Governments would be requested to make available land and other necessary facilities such as electricity, water etc. at concessional terms.

RECOVERY OF ARREARS OF INCOME-TAX

5149. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the amount of Income-tax arrears recovered by Government during the period April to October, 1973 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : The amount of Income-tax arrears recovered during the period April to October, 1973 is not available since the information is compiled on a quarterly basis, i.e. as on 30th June, 30th September, 31st December and 31st March.

However, during the period 1-4-73 to 31-12-73, the total amount realised out of Income-tax arrears by cash collection amounted to Rs. 57.14 crores. During the same period the arrears of Income-tax were further reduced by Rs. 145.31 crores by adjustments, appeals effects, rectifications, etc.

LOANS ADVANCED BY L.I.C. TO STATES

5150. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO : SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the State of Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu are the largest beneficiaries of loans being advanced by the Life Insurance Corporation as compared to other States in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the reasons for which such loans are not being given to other States including Haryana ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) A statement indicating the loans availed of by the various states is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6583/74].

(b) and (c). Within the constraint of the Insurance Act, the LIC seeks to spread its investments on a uniform basis throughout the country. The amount invested in a State depends upon the extent to which the various agencies in that State are able to avail themselves of the loan facilities offered by the LIC.

The investments in Maharashtra & Tamil Nadu are substantial because of the infrastructures available in these states, which have enabled those states to draw more loans from LIC than other states.

As far as other states including Haryana are concerned, the LIC has always been willing to grant loans to the extent suitable agencies are available to utilise LIC's funds.

INCREASE IN EXPORT OF TRADITIONAL GOODS

5151. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO : SHRI D. D. DESAI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the position of export trade in 1973-74 as compared to 1972-73;

(b) the efforts that are being made to augment the export of traditional goods;

(c) the nature of the demand in the new markets abroad for Indian goods together with the steps which are being taken to meet this demand; and