

such applications, the Reserve Bank takes into account whether the company is engaged in an export oriented or essential industry and whether the need is genuine.

(c) As the information sought relates to the individual constituents of the nationalised banks, it cannot be divulged in accordance with the practices and usages customary among bankers and also in accordance with the provisions of the statute under which the nationalised banks have been set up.

Cases of Evasion of Income tax in Dehradun

2665. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Income tax evasion cases detected in Dehradun during last three years;

(b) whether it has come to Government's notice that the Income Tax Authorities in Dehradun have assured the business community there that no Income tax evasion raids will be considered; and

(c) if so, what action Government contemplate to take so that the Income tax machinery functions independently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) Number of cases in which penalty proceedings for concealment were initiated in Dehra Dun District during the last three years.

Year	No. of cases
1971-72	91
1972-73	25
1973-74	115

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Steps to Increase Earnings from Tourism

2666. SHRI SHANKER RAO SAVANT:

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN;
SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN
SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign tourists who visited India during 1974-75 till the 31st December, 1974;

(b) what were the earnings from these tourists during this period;

(c) how are these earnings calculated; and

(d) what steps are being taken to increase earnings from tourism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b). The number of foreign tourists who visited India during 1974-75 (April—December) was 317,107. Foreign exchange earnings from these tourists are estimated at Rs. 52.2 crores.

(c) The earnings have been estimated on the basis of tourist arrivals and average tourist expenditure of Rs. 1646 obtained through a sample survey conducted in 1972-73.

(d) Various steps taken by Government to step up tourist traffic are indicated in the attached statement. These will, in turn, result in an increase in earnings from tourism.

Statement

1. The Government has decided to introduce 'Discover India promotional fares' payable in foreign exchange from 1st September 1974. They are US \$ 200 for 14 days and US \$ 275 for 21 days' unrestricted travel on the domestic sectors of Indian Airlines.