

Travel Agents' Convention

10490. SHRI P. C. ADICHAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the three-day Travel Agent's Convention held in Srinagar in the fourth week of April, urged Government to make the Seven-day visa-free stay facility for foreign tourists a permanent feature ;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereof ; and

(c) other suggestions mooted at the convention and Government's reaction to each of them ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : (a) It is understood that a resolution to this effect was passed. Copies of the Resolutions passed at the Convention have not yet been communicated to Government.

(b) The question of simplifying visa formalities, including grant of 7 day temporary landing permit to foreign tourists, is being considered by Government.

(c) The resolutions passed at the convention will be examined when they are formally referred to Government.

Bus Accident in Delhi

10491. SHRI M. L. SONDHI :
SHRI SHIV KUMAR
SHASTRI :

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to hold an inquiry into the accident which resulted in the death of one person and injuries to ten others that occurred when a double-decker was negotiating a turn on Shanti-Path Delhi on the 21st April, 1968 ; and

(b) the amount of compensation being paid to the dead and injured victims ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING (SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN) : (a) The General Manager of the Delhi Transport Undertaking has already constituted on the 22nd April, 1968, an

Accident Enquiry Committee, comprising of the Chief Mechanical Engineer and the Traffic Manager of the D. T. U. and the Traffic Superintendent of Sarojani Nagar Depot. The report of the Committee is awaited.

(b) A sum of about Rs. 7,000/- is proposed to be paid by the D. T. U. to the heirs of the deceased conductor, as compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act. Payment of compensation to the injured persons will be considered by the Undertaking on receipt of claims, if any.

Oberoi Hotels at Bombay and Bangalore

10492. SHRI ARJAN SINGH BHADORIA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have given permission to Oberoi Group of Hotels to construct new hotels at Bombay and Bangalore ; and

(b) the steps taken to encourage other Indian businessmen and India Tourism and Development Corporation to build hotels at different places ?

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

(a) A proposal from the Oberoi Group of Hotels for construction of a hotel in Bombay with foreign collaboration is under consideration.

(b) Several incentives have been offered to the private sector to encourage construction of hotels. These include tax and fiscal reliefs, sale of Government owned land in Delhi on suitable terms, and financial assistance in the shape of interest bearing loans from a special scheme sanctioned for this purpose by the Government. The India Tourism Development Corporation, a public sector undertaking also has a programme for the construction of hotels at key tourist centres.

Foreign Exchange Released to Hotels

10493. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the foreign exchange allotted for import of hotel equipment to "Oberoi-

Intercontinental, Clarks Varanasi, Oberoi Palace Hotel, Srinagar, Great Eastern Hotel, Calcutta, Ambassador Hotel, Delhi, Grand Hotel, Calcutta and Natraj Hotel, Bombay during the last five years; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to see that the amount has been properly utilized for the hotel business?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) A statement showing the amounts of foreign exchange recommended for release to enable these hotels to import capital equipment during the last five years, is attached.

Statement

Sr. No.	Name of the Hotel	Amount of foreign exchange recommended for release during the last five years for import of hotel equipment
1.	Oberoi-Intercontinental, New Delhi	Rs. 11,98,886.20*
2.	Clerks, Varanasi	Rs. 52,850.00
3.	Oberoi Palace Hotel, Srinagar	Rs. 1,03,072.00
4.	Great Eastern Hotel, Calcutta	Rs. 84,400.00
5.	Ambassador Hotel, Delhi	Rs. 2,44,070.00
6.	Grand Hotel, Calcutta	Rs. 3,40,974.00
7.	Natraj Hotel, Bombay	Rs. 1,44,532.00

(b) Random checks are carried out by the Tourist Offices, where considered necessary.

and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Indra Market, Delhi

Profit Making by Officers of Chief Commissioner's Office, Delhi by Sale of Plots

10494. SHRI ARJUN SINGH BHADORIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to hold an enquiry into the allegations made that the Officers of Chief Commissioner's Offices, Delhi have made a net profit of Rs. 25 thousand to Rupees 30 thousand by selling three plots allotted to them in their Co-operative Housing Society, G.T. Road; and

(b) if so, whether the culprits will be asked to hand back the profits to Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). The information is being collected

10495. SHRI KASHI NATH PANDEY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a boundary wall was started on northern side of Indra Market, Delhi but the work was stopped in September, 1965 due to Indo-Pak conflict; and

(b) if so, when the work will start again so that the boundary wall is completed on all sides to check the entry of trucks in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). It is a fact that the construction of boundary wall on northern side of Indra Market was started but the work was suspended in 1965 due to dispute with the contractor regarding rates of the items of the contract. The dispute has now been

*This does not include import of equipment against EXIM Bank loan.