

*[English]***Night Landing Facility at Guwahati**

3360. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether night landing facility has been provided at Guwahati airport; and

(b) if not, the time by which the same facility is likely to be provided there?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Working Group for Development of Tourism

3361. DR. SAROJA V. : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted a working group for development of tourism in the country;

(b) if so, the composition of the working group;

(c) the aspects likely to be covered by the group; and

(d) the time by which the group is likely to give its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) to (d) Yes Sir. The Working Group on Tourism constituted for the formulation of Ninth Five Year Plan included officials of Ministry of Tourism, Planning Commission, representative from other Ministries/Departments, representative from Hotel and Travel Industry and Tourism Secretaries of State Governments. The terms of reference included Review of the performance of Tourism Sector, to assessment of foreign tourism markets, assesment of required infrastructure facilities, review the incentives, estimates of direct employment, Product development, Human Resource Development and Promotion Marketing and Technology in Tourism Sector. The Working Group has submitted its report to the Government.

Harassment/Cheating of Foreign Tourists

3362. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN :
SHRI C.P.M. GIRIYAPPA :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the growing incidents of harassment and cheating of foreign tourists by the touts and criminals at the airports and other places in the country; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to stop such incidents and dispel any impressions about the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Prevention of harassment and cheating of tourists is essentially a State Subject. However, the Ministry of Tourism maintains coordination with various concerned agencies including State Governments and Airports Authority of India to deal with such incidents. This matter was also discussed in the State Tourism Ministers' Conference held on 6th August, 1998 in New Delhi and it was resolved that the State Governments will consider legislation of suitable regulatory measures in the form of a Tourism Trade Act to ensure safety and security of tourists.

*[Translation]***Unsatisfactory Service of A.I.R. and Doordarshan**

3363. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the broadcast and telecast of A.I.R. and Doordarshan in the country have been found most unsatisfactory; and

(b) if so, the remedial steps proposed to be taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Prasar Bharati have informed that it is their endeavour to make conscious efforts to improve the quality of programmes of All India Radio and Doordarshan. This is an ongoing process.

*[English]***Duty Free Shops at Airports**

3364. SHRI R.S. GAVAI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :