

Concession (LTC) facility for Bharat Darshan to the Government officials with a view to encourage tourism.

(b) whether an extension of one and half year was granted for each of the block years 1986-89 and 1990-93; and

(c) if so, whether the period of block year 1994-97 would also be extended and continued upto June 1999 and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) As per entitlement of the Government Servants, Air/Rail fare by direct shortest route is admissible while traveling on LTC. In addition, Government servants can get their earned leave encashed for the purpose subject to certain conditions like not more than 10 days at a time and 60 days in entire career.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. The Govt. servants had sufficient time from 1994 to date to avail the LTC and there are no reasons to extend it beyond 31.12.1998.

[English]

Development of Tourism in Kerala

2264. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kerala Government has submitted a project report to the Union Government for the development of tourism in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to make a comprehensive action plan to develop tourist places in Kerala. and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Tourism has not received any project report from the State Government of Kerala. However, the Union Government has financed Rs. 1.9 crores for the preparation of a project report for the Bekal Special Tourism Area.

(c) and (d) The Development of Tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, Ministry of Tourism in consultation with the State Government has prioritised 15 projects amounting to Rs. 467.00 lakhs for Central Financial Assistance during 1998-99.

Assistance Sought from NRF

2265. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received some proposals from Gujarat for sanctioning assistance from National

Renewal Fund for recouping the State Renewal Fund towards the expenditure incurred on Voluntary Retirement Scheme of Workers of Gujarat State Textile Corporation closed down by the Government of Gujarat as per the orders of Gujarat High Court;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government received any proposal for assistance from National Renewal Fund in respect of statutory dues of workers of Private Mills under liquidation in Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) to (d) The Ministry of Industry, Department of Industrial Development has received two proposals from the Government of Gujarat as follows:

(i) Proposal of Gujarat State Textile Corporation Ltd. (GSTC) for assistance from National Renewal Fund (NRF).

(ii) Proposal of Government of Gujarat seeking NRF assistance for closed Textile Mills.

Assistant from NRF is presently available only for VRS in Central Public Sector Undertakings and for counselling, retraining of rationalised workers

Coal Handling Plants

2266. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of coal handling plants (CHPs) constructed in different collieries of ECL;

(b) the number of CHPs lying either idle or misutilised;

(c) whether the CHPs at Dharmo Main and Chinakuri Collieries had not handled the coal to their capacity;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the estimated loss suffered by these collieries as a result thereof;

(f) whether the Government have fixed any responsibility for such losses; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) There are 10 major CHPs and 38 mini CHPs in different collieries of ECL.

(b) 3 numbers of mini CHPs at Siduli, North Searsole and B.C. incline are temporarily closed for major repairs. None of the CHPs are misutilised.

(c) and (d) The CHP at Dhemomain Colliery was fore-closed before its completion since the extraction of coal it

envisaged earlier could not be found feasible. The CHP at Chinakuri Colliery is capable to handle 0.7 MT of coal annually but is under utilised due to low production of coal at this Mine.

(e) An expenditure of Rs.4.18 crores has been incurred on construction of Dhemomoin CHP. The equipments procured have been gainfully utilised at other places. Other structural elements are also being utilised in other CHPs/installations.

(f) and (g) Due to unforeseen and difficult Geo-Mining conditions the desired levels of production could not be achieved in some projects. This has led to under utilisation of some CHPs and foreclosure of one CHP. No responsibility has been fixed on any individual for this.

Funds to Shri Bharathi Mills

2267. SHRI S. ARUMUGHAM : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to make the payment of dues to Shri Bharathi Mills in Pondicherry which is under the control of N.T.C.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the above mill is unable to pay arrears of electricity bill to the State Government and received notices of disconnection of electricity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) and (b) Government is releasing funds as budgetary support to all the mills under NTC including Sri Bharathi Mills in Pondicherry.

(c) and (d) Electricity dues amounting to Rs.123.91 lakhs for the period 1995-96 are payable by Sri Bharathi Mills to the State Government. Due to severe financial constraints of the mill, the Electricity Department, Government of Pondicherry is being requested not to disconnect the power supply and to accept payment in easy instalments.

Grants to J & K

2268. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the grants provided to Jammu and Kashmir for security related matters alongwith the brief account of these matter during each of the last three years and also during the current year,

(b) the grants provided for relief, rations etc. for the Kashmiri migrants during the said period; and

(c) the demand projected by the State Government for the above period?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) to (c) Details of the claims made by the State

Government of Jammu & Kashmir and the releases made to them during the three years, 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 are as follows:

Years	(Rs. in Crores)			
	Security related Expenditure		Relief to migrants	
	Claim	Released	Claim	Released
1995-96	142.69	143.26	26.03	24.43
1996-97	151.99	141.96	30.44	30.44
1997-98	249.52	139.96	33.84	26.24

During the current year (1998-99), an amount of Rs.75.00 crores has so far been released as advance to the State Government for meeting the Security Related Expenditure.

In addition to the releases detailed above, Rs.38.74 crores in 1995-96, Rs.93.03 crores in 1996-97 and Rs.15.20 crores in 1997-98 were released as additional SRE for elections in Jammu & Kashmir. Also a sum of Rs.6.60 crores was released for improvement in migrant camps during 1996-97.

Security Related Expenditure relates to expenditure on items such as carriage of Constabulary, materials and supplies, purchase of vehicles, payment of rent for accommodation of security personnel, security works, airlifting charges etc.

FDI in Cigarette

2269. SHRI R.S. GAVAI :

SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL :

SHRI K.S. RAO :

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

SHRI S.S. OWAISI :

SHRI NADENDLA BHASKAR RAO :

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :

SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV :

SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN :

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH :

SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA :

SHRI SODE RAMAIAH :

DR. SANJAY SINH :

SHRI GIRAJALA VENKATA SWAMY NAIDU :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Union Government propose to allow 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Cigarette/Tobacco Industry and other such non-priority sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;