

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1642
ANSWERED ON:19.07.2004
COMPLIMENTARY MEMBERSHIP
Boianapalli Shri Vinod Kumar

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) have given complimentary membership for swimming pool, free accommodation and other facilities to a certain category of officials;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) whether it is as per the norms;
- (d) if not, whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard ;
- (e) if so, the outcome thereof alongwith losses suffered by these hotels during the said period; and
- (f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to withdraw such facilities ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SMT. RENUKA CHOWDHURY)

(a), (b) & (c): The complimentary membership for swimming pool and health club have been discontinued with effect from December 2001.

Free accommodation has been given to the officials as per the rules/norms. The details of the complimentary facilities extended to the officials during the last three years are given in the Annexure. Complimentary facilities are extended by all hotels for commercial purposes in the hospitality industry.

(d): The Ministry of Tourism has had an inquiry conducted in July, 2002 on the issue of complimentary facilities being provided by ITDC.

(e): The inquiry report states that in the changing business environment/ competitive scenario where marketing is the word to go by, who-so-ever gets business in concrete terms to the hotels should be entitled to certain complimentary hospitalities on a pre-fixed scale as a part of business promotion schemes. At the same time the mechanism of accountability has to be incorporated in the policy to ensure that despite flexibility of approach in granting complimentaries to the business promoters of the hotels as aforesaid, the subjective misuse of granting hospitalities on considerations of promotion of personal mutual interests, direct or otherwise, does not go unpunished. The Inquiry Report has not assessed any losses.

(f): Complimentary membership for the swimming pool and health club has been withdrawn with effect from December 2001.