

with large scale private units on merits in each case.

Proposal to Set up Overseas Unit of LIC

5744. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to set up more overseas units of the Life Insurance Corporation of India, in addition to the one in Bahrain, for insurance business abroad: and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) Not at present, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Expenditure on Court Cases for Recovery of Bank Loans

5745. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of loan recovery cases of nationalised banks and public financial institutions pending in the courts; and

(b) the percentage of the amount involved in such cases being spent each year by Government in the realization of such loans?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Development of Vazhachal as a Tourist Centre in Kerala

5746. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has sent any proposal to develop Vazhachal in Trichur District of Kerala as a tourist centre: and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Reservation for Women in Parliament and Assembly Elections

5747. DR. K. KALIMUTHU: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to reserve Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies for women in proportion to their population; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration of the Committee on Electoral Reforms appointed by the Government.

Bursting of a Racket of Car Importers

5748. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Bombay have bursted a racket indulging in undervaluing German made imported cars and later selling them at a high price thus evading Customs duty to the tune of crores of rupees:

(b) if so, the details of the persons arrested in this connection;

(c) the details of fictitious deals made by them during the last three years; and

(d) the action Government contemplated against them?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c). The Officers of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence have recently detected evasion of Customs duty by way of mis-declaration of cubic capacity and value of "Audi" make cars, at the time of importation. The Customs duty evaded is approximately Rs. 1.32 crores. During the last three years, 25 such cars have been seized and four cars have been detained. However, no arrests have been made so far. The matter is still under investigation. The modus operandi adopted was to import cars by using the names of the persons eligible for Customs Clearance Permits for the import of cars and thereafter sell them at a premium.

(d) The persons found involved are liable for penalty in departmental proceedings and are liable for prosecution in Courts of Law in suitable cases. Such persons are also liable for detention under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974, if considered necessary.

[*Translation*]

Restrictions on Tourists in N.E. Region

5749. SHRIMATI CHENNUPATI VIDYA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to restrictions on the entry of tourists in the North-Eastern region, the tourism industry could not come upto the levels of other States;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to encourage tourism in these North-Eastern States; and

(c) whether Government have received any representations from these States in this regard and if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Recently Central Government have relaxed restrictions on the entry of tourists in some areas of North Eastern region. Promotional efforts to Tourism development programmes are also being stepped up in the region.

[*English*]

Construction of Tourist Complex In Hazaribagh (Bihar)

5750. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct a tourist complex under India Tourism Development Corporation at Tillya Dam, Damodar Valley Corporation, Bihar;

(b) if so, whether a study team of experts is proposed to be appointed for ascertaining potential for tourism development there; and

(c) whether any steps are proposed to be taken for providing transport facility to tourists upto Hazari Bagh National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary Koderma, Surya Kund in