

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c). Government had appointed on 26th November, 1987, initially for a period of 6 months, a national Industrial Tribunal at Hyderabad to decide the question relating to pay, salary, other allowances and other benefits payable to the employees of the Regional rural Banks. Its term was subsequently extended thrice. The last extension was upto 30-4-1990, on which date the Tribunal has given its award.

[English]

Package Incentives to Boost Tourism

7502. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY:
SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cabinet Committee on Export strategy and performance has presently decided a package of incentives to boost tourism development;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government recently to boost tourism in the country;

(c) the locations identified in this regard; and

(d) the estimated expenditure to be incurred to boost tourism during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) to (c). The Cabinet Committee on Export strategy and performance in the meeting held on 6th April 1990 decided the

following incentives to boost tourism development in the country.

New approved hotels set-up in selected areas not having 300 rooms of reasonable standards (3-star and above) would be exempted from expenditure tax for a period of 10 years and also be given 50% exemption from tax under section 80(I) of the Income Tax Act. The places designated for this purpose are the followings:

- (i) All hilly areas above 3000/- feet
- (ii) All rural areas
- (iii) All pilgrim places
- (iv) All places identified and notified by the Ministry of Tourism in Travel circuits where tourism is sought to be developed. These concessions would be available only if the hotel becomes operational by December, 1993.

The other measures initiated by the Govt. to boost tourism in the country include liberalisation of Charter Policy, introduction of air taxi and 'rent a car' systems, development of new tourism areas diversification of tourism resources and strengthening of overseas publicity campaigns.

(d) The plan allocation for the Eighth Plan has not been finalised by the Planning Commission.

Raids Conducted Under FERA Regulations

7503. SHRI E.S.M. PAKEER MOHMED: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of raids conducted under FERA during 1989-90;

(b) the number of cases out of these raids in which incriminatory documents, unaccounted money and foreign currency have been recovered;

(c) the number of cases in dispute;

(d) the number of cases finally disposed of and the amount realised by Government thereby during the above period as penalty and the details thereof; and

(e) the total approximate expenditure incurred by Government in conducting such raids during the above period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (d). The Directorate of Enforcement (FERA) had conducted 2930 searches, during the year 1989-90. Out of these 1912 searches resulted in the seizure of Indian currency and Foreign currency besides documents. During the same period, the Directorate had initiated adjudication proceedings in 4446 cases by issue of show cause notices for violation of various provisions of the FERA and 5641 show cause notice including earlier notices were adjudicated which resulted in imposition of penalties amounting to Rs. 2562.08 lakhs, in addition to confiscation of Indian currency of Rs. 105.82 lakhs and foreign currency equivalent to Rs. 113.82 lakh (approx.)

(e) The total expenditure incurred by the Directorate of Enforcement during the same period was Rs. 500.50 lakhs.

Financial Assistance to Karnataka

7504. SHRI B.M. MUJAHID: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state the total financial assistance proposed to be given during 1990-91 by Union Government to Government of Karnataka for development of tourism in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): Development of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the state Governments. However, to augment the tourist infrastructure in the State, financial assistance is provided based on specific proposals, their merits, availability of funds and inter-se priorities. The financial assistance is provided on scheme-wise basis and not on State-wise basis.

Pay, Perquisites and Commission Admissible to Insurance Agents

7505. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is wide disparity in the pay, perquisites and commission admissible to the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) and the General Insurance Corporation (GIC) agents;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by Government to remove the disparity?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b). The nature of business and duties for agents of Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) and General Insurance Corporation (GIC) are different and so also the terms and conditions for their appointment. Therefore, the rates of commission admissible to LIC and GIC agents cannot be brought at par. For LIC, the policies are long term contracts while the policies of GIC are annual contracts. The agents of LIC and GIC do not get any pay or perquisites. As compensation and remuneration for the discharge of all his functions, an agent is paid commission at specified rates.