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Bhutan shall issue identity cards/permits without payment of security deposit to all the above mentioned personnel. Who are Indian nationals, and their families.

- 4. The agencies involved in the preparation of the DPRs will depute technicians and administrative personnel to Bhutan according to the requirement of works at site. The Royal Government of Bhutan shall issue/renew identity cards free of cost.
- The Royal Government of Bhutan shall provide facilities to ensure free movement and transportation of machinery and equipment connected with the investigation work without levying and type of fee, taxes and duties.
- 6. The Royal Government of Bhutan shall make necessary arrangements for the acquisition of land, buildings, the right of way where needed, cutting of trees necessary for conducting the investigation, and field facilities as may be considered necessary for the preparation of the DPRs and shall resolve administrative and other difficulties, if any. The payment of compensation, if any, and settlement of claims or disputes arisingin connection with any arrangements shall

be the so responsibility of the Royal Government of Bhutan.

 The Royal Government of Bhutan shall issue, on the recommendation of the investigating agencies, licences to Indian contractors to participate in tenders related to the investigations.

[Translation]

MSTD or STD Facilities at Telephone Exchanges in Gujarat

- *2. SHRI C.D. GAMIT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government propose to provide MSTD or STD facility in the telephone exchanges at Mandavi, Songhad, Valod, Kathor and Madhi in Surat District of Gujarat;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which this facility is likely to be provided at these telephone exchanges and the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SANJAYSINGH): (a) and (b). The telephone exchanges at Mandavi, Songhad, Valod, Kathor and Madhi in Surat District are proposed to be provided with STD facility during this plan period.

(c) (i) The MSTD facility at Fort Songhad is proposed to be provided by March, 1991. The STD facility at all these places will be possible progressively by 1993.

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ii) Steps for the automatisation of these exchanges by electronic exchanges and building up of reliable transmission media have been taken up.

[English]

Development of Tourist Spots in Karnataka

*3. SHRI M.V.
CHANDRASHEKARA
MURTHY:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the attention of the Union Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Karnataka lacks basic tourist facilities" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 13 November, 1990;
- (b) if so, whether the Government are losing foreign exchange due to lack of infrastructure and tourist facilities in Kamataka;
- (c) if so, whether the Government propose to develop tourist spots and provide adequate infrastructure and tourist facilities in the State; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATIUSHA SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Foreign exchange earnings from tourism sector have shown a steady increase in the last few years. However, the tourism potential in the country, including the State of Karnataka, could be further exploited to earn foreign exchange.

(c) and (d). Development of tourism infrastructure is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The Central Government extends financial assistance to States, based on specific proposals from State Governments and dependent upon merit of each case, availability of funds and inter-se priority. The Central Government had sanctioned tourism projects/ schemes for Rs. 252.20 lakhs, during the seventh plan to Government of Karnataka. During 1990-91. 10 projects have been prioritised in consultation with the Government of Karnataka, for extending central financial assistance estimated at Rs. 111.12 lakhs.

Japanese Aid to Develop Places of Buddhist Interest

- *4. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Union Government are developing the places of Buddhist interest with Japanese aid;
- (b) if so, the States where the religious Buddhist places are located and the Japanese aid given to develop those places;
- (c) whether infrastructural facilities are proposed to be provided in Jhalawar district to attract tourists to see the Buddhist caves and stupas located there; and
- (d) if so, the aid and assistance proposed to be provided therefor?

THE MiNISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATIUSHA SINHA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Tourist infrastructure at places of Buddhist interest connected with the life of Lord Buddha are being developed in the States of UP and