

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRIDINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (d). As on 31.12.1989, 104205 civil and 5290 criminal cases were pending in Delhi High Court. Similar information in respect of Delhi lower, Session and district Courts is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. A Committee of three Chief Justices of High courts has been constituted by the Government in January, 1989, to examine the problem of arrears in courts in depth and to suggest remedial measures.

Tourists in Delhi

8247. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign and domestic tourists who visited Delhi during the last twelve months:

(b) the number of domestic tourists from Delhi who visited tourist spots in other parts of the country during the last twelve months;

(d) the facilities provided by States/ District authorities to domestic tourists of Delhi who visit their areas; and

(e) what further measures have been taken to attract foreign and domestic tourists in Delhi and at other tourists spots in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) As per the information available from the Delhi Administration, the number of foreign and domestic tourists who visited the

city during 1989 were 7, 48,101 and 10,35,653 respectively.

(b) Statistics of outgoing tourists are not compiled.

(c) and (d). the Delhi Tourism Development Corporation has 10 information counters located at major disembarkation points. These counters provide assistance like hotel reservation facilities, hiring of cars and coaches, dissemination of tourist literature etc.

(e) concerted efforts of marketing and publicity are made to disseminate information to foreign and domestic tourists.

Incident of Burning of Forms for enrolling new Voters and Deleting Bogus Voters Delhi Cantonment

8249. SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTAM DAS PATEL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaint has been received against burning of thousands of forms for enrolling new voters and deleting the names of bogus voters from the list of electoral rolls at the Election Office, Delhi Cantonment, Delhi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (c). A complaint was received by the Chief electoral Officer Delhi alleging burning of form containing claims and objections filed in relation to the draft electoral rolls of the South Delhi Parliamentary Constituency by the Officer designated to receive such papers, in connivance with some others in January,

1990. However, on enquiry it was found that all the receipted forms were in safe custody of the designated officer and only some blank and unreceipted forms seemed to have been burnt by some increants with a view to maligning the official. All papers which had been duly received were later handed over to the Electoral Registration Officer for the Constituency for further necessary action.

Bogus RBI Circular

8250. SHRI K. S. RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the new system captioned, "Bogus RBI Circular takes exporters for a ride" appearing in the Economic Times dated 2 March, 1990;

(b) if so, the factual position thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI). (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Information is being collected from Reserve Bank of India, and, to the extent available, will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Economic Problems of Rickshaw Pullers

8251. SHRI YUVRAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made by Government relating to the economic problems of rickshaw pullers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any court has ever given a judgement regarding ownership rights over rickshaws;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the action taken by Government thereon. and

(f) the other welfare measures proposed to be taken by Government for the rickshaw pullers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a), (b) and (f). The Government is aware of the problems of people belonging to poorer sections of the society including rickshaw pullers who are among the particularly disadvantaged sections of the society. The Government, therefore, launched a new scheme viz. Self Employment Programme for Urban Poor (SEPUP) for providing loans through the banking system with a subsidy component in September, 1986. Under the scheme the borrower is eligible for a loan upto Rs. 5,000/- at an interest rate of 10% per annum. The Central Government provides a capital subsidy at the rate of 25% of the project cost.

(c) to (e). Punjab National Bank has reported that the Supreme Court had passed an order in September, 1986 on the question whether the banks could extend the facility of loan without security to rickshaw pliers for the purchase of cycle rickshaws valued upto a maximum of Rs. 2,000/-. Punjab National Bank had filed an affidavit stating that loans were available to rickshaw pullers for the purchase of cycle rickshaws under the RBI guidelines on priority sector lending and the SEPUP. the bank will require hypothecation of rickshaws purchased with the bank loan and no collateral security of guarantee is called for.