

the point raised by him is concerned, it is just a suggestion.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: I wanted to know whether there will be stamping of prices on those fabrics. Why are these varieties not stamped?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: If the hon. Member has made a suggestion, I have accepted it that it is a suggestion.

I.T.D.C's Projects in Kerala

*807. **SHRI A. A. RAHIM:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) which are the new tourist spots proposed to be developed in the country by the Central Government during the current plan;

(b) what are the tourism development projects planned to be taken up by ITDC in Kerala during the Plan period; and

(c) whether the unique Ponmudi Hills near Trivandrum are included among the spots which are to be developed as major tourist centres in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) For determining tourist centres for development during the Five Year Plan 1980-85, discussions have recently been held on a regional basis with representatives of the State tourist Organisations. They have been requested to draw up a blue-print of tourism development in their respective States.

(b) No projects have been planned to be taken up by the ITDC in Kerala.

(c) No, Sir.

SHRI A. A. RAHIM: Ponmudi Hills in Kerala is the loveliest place and it is very close to Trivandrum and Kovalam. It should be developed as an international tourist centre. Has the Government given any priority for this tourist centre because it

is very close to Trivandrum and Kovalam? It needs hardly half-an-hour drive to reach from Kovalam beach site to the hill top. This should be given priority. It is the most beautiful place in Kerala and a beautiful mountain spot. Will the ITDC take up its development on a priority basis? This is a very important centre.

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT AND TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): In the main answer to the question, my friend has stated that we are awaiting a blueprint from the Kerala Government. The working group set up by the Planning Commission recommended an outlay of Rs. 95 lakhs for the tourism development for 1980-81. The final minutes of the Planning Commission, although have not yet come to us, but, of course, this is what has been agreed to. Whatever development my hon. friend wants, I would suggest to him to tell the Kerala State Government to come with a proposal and we will consider it.

SHRI A. A. RAHIM: The hotel at Kovalam is almost a five-star hotel and it attracts a lot of foreign tourists. I would request the Minister to construct a medium type hotel at Kovalam so that tourists from our country could also come and live there. At present, the Kovalam hotel is very costly.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a suggestion for making a note of it.

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: There is no such proposal at present. We have got only one project, Yatri Niwas hotel which is being constructed at Delhi only. I cannot note the suggestion also, because it is only after the evaluation of this hotel that we would consider setting up such hotels at other places, and for that also, this has next to go to the Metropolitan cities like Calcutta, Bombay and Madras.

DR. KARAN SINGH: It is surprising that a new plan should be necessary to find out what the tourist spots in Kerala are. It is one of the most beautiful States in the country and it is well known what the tourist spots are. We developed the Kovalam resort as one of the finest beach resort in the world. As the hon. Member earlier said, will the hon. Minister tell us, whether along with the development of Kovalam beach, special efforts are going to be made to develop lower cost tourist facilities in Kovalam itself so that this magnificent beach can really be utilised more.

Secondly, we have in Kerala the Periyar game sanctuary which is a unique sanctuary, because in other sanctuaries you are on the land, here you go on the lake, the viewer is on the lake, and the animals are on the land. It is a unique sanctuary anywhere in the world except East Africa. What steps are being taken to develop tourist facilities in Kovalam, Periyar sanctuary, and Kaladi, the birthplace of Shankaracharya and one of the holy places in India? Why do you need a plan for it?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: So far as Kovalam is concerned, we are developing it by providing a yoga-cum-massage centre and a beach centre, so that the complex can be developed in an integrated manner. Accordingly, financial sanctions for Rs. 8 lakhs and Rs. 11.25 lakhs were issued for yoga-cum-massage centre and beach centre respectively. The work is in progress. There is, however, no such proposal for periyar.

श्रीमती कृष्णा साही : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने बताया था कि राज्यों को निदेश दिया गया है कि अपने यहां के पर्यटन स्थलों के विकास के लिए, ब्लू प्रिंट बनाने का तो क्या उन को यह भी निदेश दिया गया है कि 6 महीने, एक साल या तीन साल या पांच साल में कितने टाइम के अन्दर वह उस को बना कर भेजें ? कोई

टाइम बाउंड प्रोग्राम के अन्तर्गत उनको यह प्लान बनाने का निदेश दिया गया है ?

श्री अनन्त प्रसाद शर्मा : नहीं, ऐसा कुछ निर्देश नहीं दिया गया है। आशा की जाती है कि वे अपने प्रोपोजल जल्दी भेज देंगे।

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Of course, I want development of the Kerala tourist spots. The hon. Minister in his reply said that the blueprint is under way for different regions. I would like to say that the eastern region has been neglected in the matter of tourism and civil aviation. Bihar is also in the eastern region and the hon. Minister comes from there. West Bengal, Meghalaya, Manipur, Assam etc., all these areas have been neglected in the matter of development of tourism and civil aviation. In the foreign countries, as you know, through the foreign embassies, not so much publicity has been given regarding the eastern region. I would like to know what steps the Government are going to take for development of tourism and civil aviation in the eastern region to attract foreign tourists.

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: This question relates to development of tourism facilities in the country, and not the civil aviation facilities. For development of tourism and other facilities, I have stated time without number that the proposal has to come from the State Government, they have to identify the places. When the proposal comes from the State Government, definitely we will consider that. We have not prepared any blueprint ourselves.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH: It seems as if there are no plans and as if all these plans are to be made de novo. There are these plans surely. Each State has got a perspective planning, why say that plans have to be created now? I do not know. Nevertheless, the reply given is that the States have been requested to draw up a blueprint

of the development of tourism in their respective States. The main bugbear is the lack of coordination. To what extent does the Central Government wish to implement forcefully this through the National Tourism Development Corporation. They can coordinate various activities of the State and plan more effectively.

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: My friend should understand the position of the Central Government. All development of the tourist facilities is being done as planned by the State Government. And for that purpose, recently we had a discussion with the State Government's representatives in the month of June, We have not received any plan. How can we proceed? If we do something from the Centre directly at a particular place, it may either be objected to or the State Government may say that this is not the proper place, there is some other place, where they have to develop the various tourist centre, therefore, it is necessary that we must receive the blueprint from the State Government and accordingly we will proceed.

एक माननीय सदस्य : कोअ्राडिनेशन के लिए क्या किया है ?

श्री अनन्त प्रसाद शर्मा : कोअ्राडिनेशन के लिए, उनसे बातचीत की है, डिस्कशन किया है, और क्या कोअ्राडिनेशन चाहिए ?

Credit from I.M.F. under Special Oil Facility

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*808. **SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY;**
SHRI P. M. SAYEED:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has approached International Monetary Fund for a credit of about *Rupees 300 crores under the Special Oil Facility;

(b) whether this request is in

addition to Rs. 540 crores loan from the I.M.F. Trust Fund;

(c) if so, whether Government have been compelled to go to the I.M.F. for the second time;

(d) what are the main reasons therefor; and

(e) whether I.M.F. has agreed to India's request?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) No Sir. There is no oil facility in the International Monetary Fund at present.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: I am surprised at the reply given by the hon. Minister. The hon. Minister had indicated on 3rd May, 1980 that our country was compelled to go for a loan before the IMF to the tune of Rs. 550 crores just to solve the problem of balance of payment arising out of the import of crude oil. In the reply now that he has given, he has said: 'No'. It is quite contradictory. I want to know whether the Press report or the reply given by the Minister is correct; which one is correct.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: There has been misunderstanding on the part of the hon. member. The question here asked is whether India has approached the International Monetary Fund for the credit of about Rs. 300 crores under the special oil facility. It has nothing to do with Rs. 540 crores which we have arranged under the IMF; that is on a trust fund borrowing. The oil facility is one which the International Monetary Fund provided to countries—developing and developed countries—particularly afflicted by adverse balance of payment on account of hike in oil prices. For two or three years, the International Monetary Fund gave assistance to the developing countries. This facility started in 1975-76 and went on till 1976-77, 1977-78 and it has since been stopped. That is why when I answered, I emphasised that