

secret trade exists in the gems but no systematic effort has been made to assess the potential deposit;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Geological Survey of India has located moon stones, beryl and rubies in Coimbatore and Kanyakumari districts;

(c) whether Government propose to undertake investigations to locate promising gem stones tracts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE, STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: (a) and (b). After detailed work in 1967-68 Geological Survey of India has reported the occurrences of moon-stone, beryl and ruby in Kangayam area of Coimbatore district and gem variety chrysoberyl in the district of Kanyakumari. No systematic assessment of the potentiality of the gem stone tracts has been done. It is, however, known that the occurrences are sporadic and irregular. Local people are said to collect such stones after the rains. No information is available about secret trade in gem stones.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir The Geological Survey of India proposes to take up gem stone investigation in Tamil Nadu in collaboration with the Tamil Nadu State Geology Department. This item has been included in the Field Season programme 1981-82 of Geological Survey of India Tamil Nadu Circle in parts of Salem, Dharmapuri, Tiruchirapalli, Madurai, Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli Districts.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : श्री मनफूल सिंह की आंख बड़ी तेज है। कहां राजस्थान में तामिलनाडु जाकर हीरे-जवाहिरात तलाश किए हैं।

श्री मनफूल सिंह चौधरी : राजस्थान के बहुत से लोग तामिलनाडु में रहते हैं।

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: The precious stones occur sporadically in

many places in different parts of the country. Recently I had asked a question about Orissa in connection with this. May I know. . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Not allowed. Next question.

Growth Rate of Tourism in Karnataka State

*187. SHRI S. B. SINDAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the growth of tourism has not shown encouraging trends in Karnataka State;

(b) whether any statistics have been maintained reflecting the tourism receipts for Karnataka for the last two years;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) what concrete steps Government propose to take to publicise scenic splendours, historic grandeur and nature's beauty in Karnataka to attract more tourists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

The statistics of international tourist arrivals to India are compiled on an all-India basis and not on State-wise basis. However, on the basis of Foreign Tourist Survey conducted during 1976-77, it was estimated that of all the foreign tourists visiting India, 8.84% visited Bangalore and 2.77% visited Mysore in the State of Karnataka. On this basis, the estimated number of tourists who visited Bangalore and Mysore during 1980 is projected at 71,000 and 22,000 respectively.

2. As regards the compilation of domestic tourists statistics, the State

Department of Tourism has been requested to compile this as per the definition and methodology recommended by the Working Group on Domestic Tourist Statistics.

3. The Central Department of Tourism has also commissioned a pilot study on Domestic Tourism which would determine, among other things, the volume of domestic tourist statistics at 22 major tourist destinations including Bangalore in the State of Karnataka.

4. The foreign exchange earnings from tourism are also estimated on an all-India basis and not on State-wise basis. The same for the year 1980 was provisionally estimated at Rs. 482 crores (compared to Rs. 384 crores for 1979) at current prices.

5. In order to publicise the various attractions of Karnataka, the Deptt. of Tourism has brought out publicity materials such as printed literature, films, audio-visuals etc. so as to attract more tourists to the State of Karnataka.

6. With a view to develop tourist facilities in an integrated manner in Karnataka, the following travel circuits have been identified in the State. The facilities will be developed at these centres utilizing the available resources in the Central, State and private sectors:—

(i) Belgaum-Bijapur-Badami-Pattadakal-Aihole-Hospet-Hampi-Belgaum/Goa.

(ii) Bangalore-Mysore-Bandipur-Nagarhole-Halebid (Belur, Halebid and Sravanabelagola)-Mercara-Mangalore and West Coast beaches.

7. A blue-print of tourism development, based on the above travel circuits, indicating the schemes that will be taken up in the State Sector, the Central Sector and the schemes in which private sector could be involved is being formulated in consultation with the State Government. A shelf of schemes will thereafter be prepared for implementation in the Central Sector during the Sixth Five Year Plan depending upon the availability of funds

and inter-se priorities. Each travel circuit will be developed as an integrated project to promote both domestic and international tourism.

SHRI S. B. SINDAL: The Minister has not answered my first question adequately. My question was: whether it is a fact that the growth of tourism has not shown encouraging trends in Karnataka State. Secondly, if there are any under contemplation, what are those schemes which they intend to undertake?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): I have already stated in the main answer, which was given in the form of a statement, that we do not maintain State-wise tourist arrival figures. We conducted a Foreign Tourist Survey in 1976-77, on the basis of which we said that the total tourist arrival in the whole country is 8,00,150. On this basis, the estimated number of tourists who visited Bangalore and Mysore during 1980 is projected at 71,000 and 22,000. In that statement we have also mentioned the steps that are being taken to develop tourism in the country as a whole, and in Karnataka in particular.

SHRI S. B. SINDAL: The Minister simply stated 71,000 tourists visited Bangalore and 22,000 Mysore. It is not clear as to what is the trend.

MR. SPEAKER: Even if he has not cleared your point, he has made clear his own point of view.

SHRI S. B. SINDAL: What are the measures taken for publicity outside the country?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: The trend of tourist arrival in this country is encouraging. That is how we have been able to reach the figure of 8,00,150. So far as publicity is concerned, we do it for the country as a whole and for different States separately.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Which are the places in Karnataka, particularly in western coast, identified

as tourist centres and also in Mangalore and Mercara?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: Sir, the whole of Karnataka has been divided into two travel circuits and these two travel circuits consist of 16 centres. They are as follows:—

Travel circuit No. 1: Belgaum-Bijapur-Badami-Pattadakal-Aihole-Hospet-Hampi and then back to Bangalore.

Travel circuit No. 2: Bangalore-Mysore-Bandipur-Nagarhole-Hassan-Halabid and Sravanbelgola-Mercara-Mangalore and West coast beaches.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: I asked which are the places in the West Coast.

MR. SPEAKER: Question No. 188.

12 per cent Hike in IA Fares

*188. **SHRI PIUS TIRKEY:**

SHRI MANI RAM BAGRI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news appeared in the 'Indian Express' dated 30th July, 1981 about "12 per cent hike in I.A. fares";

(b) if so, what are the reasons of the hike and how many times this hike has come into being during the last three years; and

(c) whether Government intend to take some positive steps to check hikes again and again?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Airlines has increased the fares by only 5 per cent with effect from 1st August, 1981. In addition the Fuel Surcharge has been increased by 7 per cent due to increase in the cost of fuel.

(b) A statement giving the requisite information placed on the table of the House.

(c) The hikes in fuel surcharge and fares are due to increases in fuel prices and in various items of operational expenditure. As and when there is a hike in fuel price or the cost of operation goes up, revision of the fuel surcharge and fares become inescapable.

Statement

(b) The reason for the hike in fares by 5 per cent is due to increase in expenditure on Landing and Parking charges, materials consumed, food supplied on flights and other expenditure due to revision in rates and general increase in prices. The 7 per cent increase in fuel surcharge is on account of increase in fuel price. The increases in passenger fares and fuel surcharge by Indian Airlines during the last three years are as under:—

A. Passenger Fares Increase

Year	Percentage Increase	
	Domestic	International
1978-79	Nil	7% (effective April, 78)
1979-80	30% (effective November, 1979)	7% (effective May, 79) 9% (effective Sept., 79) 3% (effective Feb., 80)
1980-81	Nil	9% (effective April, 80) 3% (effective October, 80)