

सीमाओं का तो नहीं लांच रहा है। कहीं वह उस लकड़ी को तो नहीं काटना शुरू कर दे जिस टहनो पर वह बैठा हुआ है। अति सर्वत्र वर्जयेत। दैन द्वाद विल हैप्पन

I don't direct anyone—Neither the Government nor the opposition. That is what I do. So, no problem regarding that. Don't stretch the point beyond any comprehension. I do not like that. (*Interruptions*)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Tourism Research and awareness programme

*373. SHRIMATI MADHURI SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the composition, role and objectives of the Tourism Research and Awareness Programme (TRAP);

(b) whether any evaluation had been made of the work done by the TRAP; and

(c) whether any proposals are under consideration of Government to make the TRAP more effective and result-oriented

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

The Tourism Research and Awareness Programme (TRAP) has been drawn up by the Pacific Area Travel Association (PATA) India Chapter, and is being implemented by the Committee constituted by PATA (India) under the Chairmanship of Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha, M.P. with representatives from the tourism industry, Department of Tourism, a Tourism Expert and an appointed full-time Director to coordi-

nate the activities. The Programme funded by PATA. India is aimed at creating greater awareness amongst all concerned of the importance of tourism, its contribution in the economic, social and cultural spheres, preservation of heritage and culture, national integration and international understanding etc. Regular review of TRAP activities is done by PATA (India).

श्रीमती माधुरी सिंह : मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगी कि उनकी बताई गई सुविधाओं के बावजूद भी कौन से अन्य कारण हैं जिससे विदेशी पर्यटक अन्य देशों की अपेक्षा हमारे देश में इतनी कम संख्या में भ्रमण करते आते हैं

अध्यक्ष महोदय : क्या आपको सुनाई दे रहा है

श्री अशोक हलोन : कुछ कुछ सुनाई दे रहा है

अध्यक्ष महोदय : कुछ का जवाब कुछ होगा। इसलिए आप पूरा सुनिए . . यू बूटर कम निग्रर दः माइक एण्ड स्पीक लाउडली

श्रीमती माधुरी सिंह : मैं माननीय मंत्री से यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि उनके द्वारा बताई गई सुविधाओं के बावजूद भी, कौन से अन्य कारण हैं, जिससे विदेशी पर्यटक अन्य देशों की अपेक्षा हमारे देश में इतनी कम संख्या में भ्रमण करते आते हैं। क्या इस विषय पर सरकार द्वारा कोई अध्ययन अथवा रिसर्च की गई है कि देशी और विदेशी पर्यटकों की क्या मूलभूत आवश्यकताएँ हैं तथा वे क्या चाहते हैं? एशियाई देशों से पर्यटकों को भारत को और आकृष्ट करने के लिए कौन सी विशेष स्कीम बनाई जा रही है? यह सवाल इसलिए महत्वपूर्ण है

कि गत वर्ष 40 लाख जापानी पर्यटकों में से केवल 31 हजार ही हमारे देश में घूमने आए ।

पर्यटक मंत्रालय के राज मंत्री (श्री खुर्शीद आलम खां) : मान्यवर, यह सवाल तो टूरिज्म रिसर्च एण्ड ऐन्वैरनमेंट प्रोग्राम के मुताबिक है । माननाय समस्या ने उससे हट कर पूछा है कि हमारे देश में इतने कम पर्यटक, टूरिस्ट, क्यों आते हैं । मैं अर्ज करना चाहूंगा कि हमारे देश में टूरिस्टों का जं वृद्धि हुई है, वह ऐसी नहीं है, जो चिन्ताजनक या निराश करने वाली हो । 1952 में हमारे देश में कुल 17,000 टूरिस्ट आए थे, जब कि 1981 में 1.2 मिलियन टूरिस्ट यहां पर आए । यह जूरूर है कि जापान से जो टूरिस्ट दूसरे देशों में गए, उनमें हमारा हिस्सा अभी भी कम है । लेकिन हम कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि वहां पर हम ज्यादा प्रचार करें, खाम तौर पर उन जगहों का, जो बुद्धिस्ट मजहब से ताल्लुक रखती हैं, ताकि बुद्धिस्ट मनहब का मानने वाले ज्यादा से ज्यादा लोग यहां आए । उनके लिए हमने डाकुमेंटरीज तयार की है । हमारे आफिसिज से इस वारे में जापानी, इंडोनेशन और अंग्रेजी जुवानों में लिट्रेचर वहां पर दिया जाता है इसके साथ ही हम यह भी कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि रेलवे के साथ मिल कर एक खास ट्रेन चलाई जाए, जो बुद्धिस्ट टूरिस्ट्स का बुद्धिस्ट पिलग्रिमेज प्लेसिज को ले जाए । वह एक एयर-कण्डीशण्ड गाडी होगी, जहां उन लोगों के लिए प्रेयर वगैरह का भी इन्तजाम होगा ।

श्रीमति माधुरी सिंह : क्या मंत्री महोदय इस कार्यक्रम को गति देने के लिए संसद्-सदस्यों तथा अन्य सुप्रसिद्ध पर्यटकों का एक संगठन बनाने पर विचार करेंगे, जो विभिन्न पहलुओं पर विचार कर के इस कार्यक्रम को कार्यान्वित कर सके ?

श्री खुर्शीद आलम खां : मान्यवर, हम पूरी कोशिश करते हैं कि इस देश में ज्यादा से ज्यादा टूरिस्ट आए । हमारी जो सनाहदार समिति है, वह हमें जो सुझाव देती है, हम उन्हें अपने ध्यान में रखते हैं । इसके अलावा ट्रेवल ट्रेड की तरफ से भी जो सुझाव आते हैं, हम उनपर भी अमल करते हैं । होटल फंडेशन के सुझावों पर भी गौर किया जाता है । जो संस्थाएं टूरिज्म के साथ डायरेक्टली या इन्डायरेक्टली इनवाल्व्ड हैं, जब उनकी तरफ से सुझाव आते हैं, तो उन पर पूरा ध्यान दिया जाता है और कोशिश की जाती है कि हम उन पर ज्यादा से ज्यादा अमल कर सकें । लेकिन कुछ चीजें ऐसी हैं, जिनको शायद हम तत्काल पूरा न कर सकें ।

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Sir, the Hon. Minister was speaking on encouragement of tourism. I would like to ask the Hon. Minister why is it that in Bengal and the North Eastern Region the flow of tourists is not increasing? I would say that the Government have not taken any special care so that the tourists flow is increased particularly in Darjeeling, Sundarbans etc. Moreover, they have retreated from sitting up an ITDC hotel in Calcutta. Not taking special creased particularly in Darjeeling, this area is hampering the flow of foreign tourists to Darjeeling to a great extent. Therefore, I ask why does not the Government take special care, and measure so that the flow of tourists is increased in this area, particularly in the North-Eastern region.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN: I am quite aware of the fact that there is some discouragement to tourists in North Eastern region. But here, I would particularly like to mention that there are places which are restricted and prohibited. I am sorry there is not much that I could do there. It is only the Home Ministry which can.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Is Darjeeling a prohibited place?

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN: There is no restriction about Darjeeling.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Foreign tourists are permitted to go to Srinagar and everywhere, but not to Darjeeling, the only hill station in West Bengal. This is hampering tourist flow. It is the only hill station where a permit is necessary for foreigners.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN: This is a matter to be taken up with the Home Ministry. We have already taken it up, and we have already expressed our opinion to the Home Ministry. We said, "Yes; do it." But, then, when it is a matter of security, they have to take the decision.

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT : Will the Minister inform the House whether PATA have suggested the drawing up of package programmes containing Temples and Monuments of India, Forests and Wild Life of India, Dances and Music of India and several other subjects, to be sold in advance in foreign countries with the aid of various foreign travel agencies which are operating all over the world? What happened to that suggestion made by PATA? Have we gone ahead with it? How much progress has been achieved?

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN: We have taken note of the suggestion; and as far as possible, we are trying to provide promotional effort through the media as well as by documentaries and by providing necessary literature. Besides, we also arrange India Evening meetings with the travel agents. And we invite the travel agents to come to India and see, and stay as our guests, on hospitality basis. All these efforts have shown some results; and I am quite confident that with sustained efforts

we will be able to attract more tourists to this country. We have worked out a number of package programmes in collaboration with Air India, Indian Airlines and Railways. They are all available and they are being offered to the tourists.

I.T. Raids in Ahmedabad

***374. SHRI RAMJIBHAI MAVANI:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) whether Income Tax authorities have made raids and searches of some businessmen, industrialists and business houses on 11 October, 1982 at Ahmedabad and have sealed also some of the offices of the said businessmen, industrialists and business houses;

(b) if so, the reasons for such raids and searches;

(c) the details of incriminating and illegal materials/gold, silver, unaccounted money, documents, movable and immovable property and other things found there;

(d) what action has been taken against those involved therein and the particulars of the parties, persons and others involved; and

(e) the details of other raids and searches made in Gujarat from 1 June to 15 October, 1982?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE: (SHRI PAT-TABHI RAMA RAO): (a) to (c): Consequent upon the receipt of information, Income-tax authorities searched the residential and office premises of Dr. Prashant S. Shah of Ahmedabad on 11th and 12th October, 1982. No. valuables were seized. The search resulted in the seizure of some papers and documents which are under security. One bank locker was sealed.

(d) Appropriate action under the Income-tax Act and other Direct Taxes Acts will be taken.