

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA :

It is a kind of cycle.. I have already stated that, due to disturbances in Sri Lanka and low stock at the hands of importing countries, this has happened.

SHRI BHIKU RAM JAIN: Why could it not be anticipated?

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA :

We do Periodical review of supply and demand in the interest of growers and do take stock of the position of supply and demand in domestic as well as foreign market.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : It is true that the Government has to see that the contract which has been entered into is honoured and implemented. The hon. Minister has further stated that there is a tremendous boom in prices. Therefore, the questions have arisen. The tea industry is making phenomenal profits this year. Huge amounts are coming to the tea industry. Previously all demands for modernisation, etc., been rejected by the tea industry on the plea of losses. This time would the Government take steps to see that these extra profits which are going to the tea industry or tea companies are utilised for modernisation of the tea industry itself and for other welfare steps for the workers who are clamouring for their legitimate dues ?

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA :

The hon. Member can give me a fresh notice. (Interruptions) As regards grow more production, modernisation of Tea industries and welfare of the workers, we have taken many steps; many schemes are under operation and some are going to be operated in near future.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What is the Government's policy? Does the Government want that the entire profit should go to them?

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA :

I have already said about that. (Interruptions) The Government policy is quite clear in this regard.

#### Tourism Policy and Growth of Tourism in India

\*143. SHRI B. D. SINGH† :

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR SINGH :

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

(a) the nature of the programme being followed by Government to project the image of India as a tourist destination and to what extent the present tourism policy has been able to attract tourism in the country as against the anticipated target during 1982-83 and 1983-84 till date;

(b) how does the growth of tourism in India compare with the other Asian countries such as Malaysia, Hong Kong, Sri Lanka, etc.; and

(c) whether any change in the existing policy is contemplated to improve the growth of tourism in the country ?

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

#### STATEMENT

(a) The Government's tourism policy statement lays down guidelines and gives a sense of direction to the development and marketing of tourism, both international and domestic.

To project tourist attractions of India abroad, the emphasis varies in different tourist generating markets depending on market demands and programming to suit specific requirements. The main focus is on attractions such as mountaineering, trekking, wild life, cultural and historical attractions, charter traffic, conferences and conventions.

The statistics of international tourist arrivals are compiled on calendar and not on financial year basis. The tourist statistics for the calendar year 1982 and the period Jan-Oct, 1983 are given below :

Year/Period	Number of tourist arrivals
1982	12,88,162
1983 (Jan-Oct)	6, 94, 016*

\*excludes nationals of Pakistan and Bangladesh-figures of which are still awaited.

(b) The growth rate of tourism in India compared to Malaysia, Hong Kong and Sri Lanka for the last two years is given below :

Country	Percentage Change	
	1981/80	1982/81
India	6.6	0.7*
Malaysia	10.4	N.A.
Hong Kong	10.2	2.9
Sri Lanka	15.2	9.8

\*including nationals of Pakistan and Bangladesh.

(c) The assessment of market potential for tourism is a continuous process done through the overseas offices, constant liaison with travel trade, and takes into account the economic situation prevalent in tourist markets.

The steps envisaged to improve the tourist traffic include promotion of charter traffic; hosting international conferences/conventions; increased marketing and promotion overseas; opening of new offices overseas as for instance in Kuala Lumpur; and Gulf Region and Sri Lanka; development of facilities at tourist centres falling along identified travel circuits; expansion of air services; air routes, carrying capacity as well as the capacity of existing airports and construction of new air terminals; promoting regional tourism from neighbouring countries including countries of West Asia; improving the quality and availability of surface transport facilities, etc.

श्री बी० डी० सिंह : अध्यक्ष जी, सबसे पहले मुझे यह शिकायत है कि सरकार द्वारा मूल प्रश्न को पढ़ कर उत्तर नहीं दिया गया है। यदि आप प्रश्न के भाग ए और सी को देखें— मैंने पूछा है कि 1982-83 और 1983-84 में एन्टी सिपेटेड टारगेट क्या था। स्टेटमेंट से कहीं नहीं पता चलता है कि टारगेट क्या था। इससे एसेसमेंट करने में कठिनाई होती है। भाग—सी में मैंने पूछा है—

“whether any change in the existing policy is contemplated to improve the growth of tourism in the country”

जवाब में कुछ नहीं दिया गया है। इसलिए मंत्री जी पहले मूल प्रश्न का उत्तर देने का कष्ट करें।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : टारगेट पर बात नहीं कही गई है कि टारगेट क्या था और फिर क्या हुआ।

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : It is correct that we have fixed certain targets for 1985 and 1990, and these targets were fixed on the assumption that the conditions in the traffic-originating countries would be normal; therefore, we had said that in 1985 the target would be 1.7 million and in 1990 3.5 million. But unfortunately the growth rate has not been accordingly because of certain reasons, and the basic reason is the recessionary conditions in the traffic-originating countries.

Besides, there have been some disturbances in the neighbouring countries which have also dislocated our traffic coming to India.

SHRI B.D. SINGH : What about your policy ?

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN : The policies are made not from year to year basis. In such matters particularly, the policies are laid down as a matter of guidelines and for providing a sense of direction.

श्री बी० डी० सिंह : हम देख रहे हैं कि जो फिगर्स दी गई है उनके अनुसार हमारे पर्यटकों की वृद्धि दर में बहुत गिरावट आई है। जहाँ 1982 में 12 लाख 88 हजार पर्यटक आये थे वहाँ 1983 के पिछले 10 महीनों में 6 लाख 94 हजार आये जबकि अन्य देश जैसे मलेशिया, हांगकांग आदि में हमारी 0.7 परसेन्ट की पर्यटक दर के मुकाबले किसी की 18 परसेन्ट है, किसी की 13 परसेन्ट है, किसी की 10 परसेन्ट है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ—पर्यटकों की वृद्धि दर में जो अप्रत्याशित गिरावट आई है उसके लिये उत्तरदायी प्रमुख कारण क्या हैं तथा उन कारणों को दूर करने के लिये सरकार की तरफ से क्या व्यावहारिक कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं ? राष्ट्र मंडल देशों के अतिरिक्त अन्य देशों के पर्यटकों के लिये जो अनिवार्य योजना

एशियाड के समय लागू की गई थी और जो इस समय भी लागू है— क्या यह नीति भी पर्यटकों की संख्या मेंकमी के लिये उत्तरदायी है? यदि है तो इसके लिये सरकार क्या करना चाहती है?

**SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN :**

Sir, in the first instance, I would like to explain to the hon. Member that in 1982, no doubt, we received 12, 88, 000 tourists to this country and in 1983, the number is 6.50 lakhs and odd tourists which exclude the tourists, coming from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal because their figures are not available and, on the basis only of this figure, our growth rate has been 1.3% in this year as compared to the corresponding period of last year.

I would certainly like to explain to him that the main reasons are, as I said, due to recessionary conditions in the traffic originating countries and disturbed conditions in some of the neighbouring countries. And, there has been another disincentive as the landing permit system has been abolished. Besides, we were getting about 9% of the traffic from the people coming overland and this traffic has been dislocated now as a result of the disturbed conditions in Afghanistan.

**DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :** Because of the situation in Afghanistan he said the tourist traffic has gone down. They must demand from Russia to withdraw their troops from Afghanistan.

**SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN :** I said that overland traffic has been dislocated.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :** Sir, no supplementary can be put without the permission of the Speaker. You should not have replied to that.

**MR. SPEAKER :** You are right.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** It should be treated as an alleged reply.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Misdirected reply.

**श्री बी० डी० सिंह :** गत अक्तूबर में नई दिल्ली में विश्व पर्यटन संगठन की आम सभा का अधिवेशन हुआ था। उस में विभिन्न देशों के अधिकांश प्रतिनिधियों की शिकायत थी कि भारत का टैरिफ बहुत महंगा है। पर्यटकों को आकर्षित करने के लिये सस्ते आवास की आवश्यकता है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है? मध्यम दर्जे के लोगों के लिये सस्ते आवास के लिये सरकार क्या नियम बना रही है?

**SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN :** In the first instance, I would like to make it very clear to the hon. Member that our tariffs are not very high. The whole Point is that the services that we render in this country are not really available in other countries. For instance, if the hon. Member asks for a cup of tea at 6 O'clock in a hotel in Paris or Berlin, he would never get it. But, if you want to ask for a breakfast at 4 O'clock in our hotel, you would certainly get it.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** Even at home, we do not get it.

**MR. SPEAKER :** You will be thrown out if you want it;

**DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :** He should not generalise. All wives are not like that.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :** Some wives beat up.

**SHRI SATISH AGARWAL :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, development of tourism is occupying an important place in the developing economies elsewhere in the world but it is unfortunate that India inspite of having so many tourist attractions all over the country its share in 1980 was only to the tune of .028 per cent. It has not gained very much over the years. Secondly, Sir, the private hotels are thriving at the cost of inefficiency in the public sector hotels. Because of the inefficiency in the public sector hotels they increase their charges and out of this inefficiency of the public sector hotels the private sector hotels are benefiting a lot. It is a very peculiar situation. private sector is not interested in developing cheap accom-

modation for the tourists. They are only interested in 5-Star hotels. Further, you have introduced the scheme of travel circuits but it has not worked. Then you have got offices abroad. They are not catering to the needs of the likely tourists. So, what effective steps are you going to take in order to energise your tourists' offices abroad as within the country so that they look after the tourists well. India has a lot of tourist potential but beautiful spots like Jaiselmer, Kota, Bikaner and Mount Abu are not in connected by plane. I want to know your thrust in energising the whole policy for the development of tourism in the country in the years to come.

**SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN :** In the first instance I would like to correct the hon. Member that our share in the world tourism is not .028 per cent but it is 0.46 per cent. Sir when we started in 1951-52 only 16,000 tourists came to this country. the close of 1982 about 1.3 million tourists came to this country and we earned Rs. 750 crores in foreign exchange. Besides I would like to assure the hon. Member that tourism in this country is not only 5-Star culture. The number of five star hotels room is only about 1/4 of the total rooms available in the country. In our country hotels are available from one star to five star but certainly we have to cater to all states. If people want to stay in 5 Star hotels we have to provide them with 5 Star accommodation. I would also like to say that private hotels as well as public sector hotels cannot increase the tariff without the approval of the Ministry of Tourism. They have to submit their balance sheet and only after verification of accounts this increase in the tariff is allowed.

**SHRI BHUBANESWAR BHUYAN :** I would like to know from the hon. Minister what particular steps were taken to attract the international tourists to the north-eastern region of the country with particular reference to Assam ?

**SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN :** Sir we do not have State-wise statistics available because statistics are Collected only at one place.

But we always provide all the information with regard to every State and every place of tourist attraction and it is for the tourists concerned to choose whichever place they want to go and whichever place they want to see.

**SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN :** Sir, I fully appreciate what is stated in part (a) of the statement that the main focus is on attracting tourists in respect of mountaineering, trekking, wild, life, etc. But with all these attractions, North Bengal, particularly Darjeeling, is the most neglected area in the tourist map of India. Sir, you know, Darjeeling is a hill town at an altitude of 8500 feet. But if a foreign tourist likes to go there he will have to take a special permission for the stay in Darjeeling and it will not be more than for 7 days; over and above the visa he will have to take this kind of special permission. Darjeeling is the most neglected part in the tourist map of India.

Sir, the one-horn rhino is a special feature of tourist attraction which is available only in Jaldapara, of Jalpaiguri district.

So, in view of these things, may I know whether this type of special permission will be withdrawn from North Bengal particularly from Darjeeling in the interest of tourism ? May I know whether Darjeeling and Jaldapara will be shown in the map of tourism in India and abroad to attract the tourists ?

**SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN :** I have more than once explained in this August House that the question of permit about the restricted areas and prohibited areas is a matter which is being dealt with by the Home Ministry.

**SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN :** It is not required for Kashmir and Ladakh Why only for Darjeeling ?

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :** What is the Tourism Ministry doing ?

**SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN :** Tourism Ministry can only recommend that this restriction should be relaxed.

**AN HON. MEMBER :** Has it actually been done ?

**SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN :**  
I have said on the floor of the House 'Yes, yes'.

#### Liberalised Pension Rules, 1979

144. **SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :**  
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Liberalised Pension Rules, 1979, have been fully implemented in the light of the Supreme Court decision;

(b) whether any categories of pensioners are yet to obtain benefit of the increased pension and if so, the number of such pensioners; and

(c) when the benefit is expected to be given to all the pensioners ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO) :** (a) to (c) Orders implementing the judgement of the Supreme Court in respect of civil pensioners have been issued on 22.10.1983 and in respect of Defence pensioners on 22.11.1983.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :** My question was about the implementation of the decision of the Supreme Court. The judgment of the Supreme court was delivered on 17-12-82. Government took about 10 months to come out with an office Memorandum only. That is why the hon Minister is keeping silent about the real thrust of the question namely, the implementation of it. I would like to tell to the hon Minister—if he has not already been told about it already—that pension is not treated as your bounty or your ex gratia payment. I hope you know that Supreme Court says that it is not a matter of grace depending upon the sweet will of the employer including the Government. This decision was given by them in December 1982. I would like to know whether the process of implementation has started at all; Has anybody till today got the benefit of this at all in the light of the Supreme Court Judgment? Have you got any information ?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) :** While raising this question, the hon Member has even wanted to educate us that pension is not a matter of grace or charity, it is a matter of right. Yes. But he has conveniently forgotten that even in respect of the Supreme Court judgment (which was delivered on 17 December 1982) there was a Review Petition. The distinguished lawyer, Mr Somnath Chatterjee, should not forget that when a review petition is filed, that means, there is another side of the story and we wanted to have the decision of the Supreme Court on that also and that was made available in April.

The review petition was dismissed by the Supreme Court in April. But the hon. Member would please recollect that at the time of presentation of my budget I had said "we have gone for a review and I am taking note of the fact and I have made provisions in the budget to implement the decisions of the Supreme Court". But at the same time it will have to be kept in mind that the number of persons involved are 11 lakhs. The number of persons involved include persons retired before 15, 20 or 25 years. The number of persons involved are Defence personnel, Civil personnel, etc. Two different parallel orders are issued. Therefore, if we are to answer it today, even now judgement or no judgement, if in each individual case arrear is to be determined on the basis of the calculations and the services rendered by him, ascertaining the records of 15 or 20 or 25 years as to when he retired, I am afraid many of the pensioners may not get it. Therefore, the question was how to implement it and how to ensure that pensioners get the benefits. It was thought that some sort of options should be given to the pensioners like providing ready reckoners to the disbursing officers, without going into the detailed calculations on the basis of some average nearing the proximity and giving the option to the pensioners that if you want to accept this, the disbursement would be easy and you will get the arrears quickly or if you feel 'NO' then we will have to go according to the normal calculations based on the records and you indicate your wish according to the advertisements which were issued in the newspapers on