

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Alleged violation of Procedural and Financial Propriety by Taj Group of Hotels in the Construction and Management of a Hotel in New Delhi

*638 SHRI RAM SEWAK HAZARI Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that Enquiry Officer deputed by NDMC to enquire into the transaction between NDMC and Taj Group of Hotels for construction and management of a Hotel at No 1 Mansingh Road, Delhi, reported gross violation of normal procedures and financial propriety to the benefit of the Hotel Company,

(b) if so, did the Government hand over the case to Criminal Bureau of Investigation for enquiry and whether any report has been received and the details thereof, and

(c) what action Government have taken on the report submitted by the Enquiry Officer and whether the Taj Group will be allowed to continue the management of the Hotel at a great loss to the exchequer?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT) (a) An Enquiry Officer was appointed by Delhi Administration, who had come to the conclusion that procedures and norms of financial propriety had been violated in processing this case

(b) Yes, Sir A case has been registered by the C.B.I. Their report is still awaited.

(c) One of the findings of the Enquiry Officer was that the terms and conditions of the agreement between the NDMC and Indian Hotel Company were detrimental to the interests of the NDMC. Accordingly, through negotiation, the same

have been revised and the terms now settled are better for the NDMC. Action with regard to administrative lapses, if established by the CBI, will be taken

Sun Temple, Konark

*659 SHRI CHATURBHUI Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state-

(a) what are the main recommendations of the Committee of Experts which has been set up to examine the problems of preservation and remedial measures, regarding Sun Temple, Konark

(b) what advice UNESCO has given in this regard, and

(c) the preservative measures taken as per the recommendations of the Committee and the advice of UNESCO?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER)

(a) The main recommendations of the Expert Committee are as below:-

(i) A small-scale experiment on one or two representative pieces of stone be done, using physiochemical means to find out a way of cleaning the stones without the least possible damage

(ii) Experimental treatment of the stones with ultra-violet rays be done periodically to kill living organism.

(iii) Some experiments with herbicides and fungicides with other chemicals be done to notice the reactivity of the stones.