

[*English*]

SHRI D.P. YADAV : It relates to my constituency Monghyr and so I am putting the question. Sir, a question has been put to the hon. Union Minister and the answer is what the State Government has done. I request the hon. Minister to look back at the pre-pages of his file where he will find that Bhimband had been included in the Tourist Circuit, but unfortunately nothing could be done during the Sixth Plan period. Sir, in view of the fact that there is huge quantity of hot and cold water which is emerging from the springs in this region, will the hon. Minister consider developing this place as a Spa, on the pattern of Austria ?

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : We shall certainly consider it.

SHRI D.P. YADAV : I did not follow.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : This is one of the 28 centres which have been identified in consultation with the State Government. We shall certainly consider it. We will certainly consider what the hon. Member has suggested.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to say that it should not be confined to Manghyr only because there are a number of tourist spots in Bihar...(*Interruptions*)...Netrahat (Chhota Nagpur), Hundru Fall (Ranchi), Jolha Fall (Ranchi) and Baraver Hill (Gaya) are very important tourist spots in Bihar. I want to know whether Government will prepare some comprehensive programme for their development during the Seventh Five Year Plan so as to facilitate economic development of a backward State like Bihar ?

MR. SPEAKER : No.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : We shall pay attention to it.

[*English*]

ITDC Consultancy Service

*238. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the India Tourism Development Corporation Ltd. has entered into certain agreements with Hotel managements abroad for rendering consultancy service;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the failure of the managements of various ITDC hotels in raising the rate of occupancy and the standard of service to clients has also been looked into by the Consultancy Division of ITDC; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action proposed to improve the general services in these hotels ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (d) A statement is given below :—

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The India Tourism Development Corporation has entered into the following agreements with hotel projects abroad for providing feasibility studies, technical and project assistance at design, planning and construction stages and post-construction, management and marketing services :

- (1) Messrs Lotus Hotels Ltd., Limassol, Cyprus.
- (2) Hotel Projects at Mosul and Dokan in Iraq.
- (3) Jaya Hotel International at Kathmandu, Nepal.

The above arrangements have been entered into on a commercial basis.

(c) and (d). The Consultancy Division of ITDC is concerned with providing consultancy and management services to hotels other than those owned by the ITDC.

The overall occupancy in ITDC hotels has improved to 48% in the first quarter of

1985-86 as compared to 39% in the corresponding period of the previous year. The ITDC has taken the following steps to improve the rate of occupancy and standard of service in its hotels :—

- (i) by entering into marketing and reservation tie-ups with agencies abroad;
- (ii) by participating in Travel Marts, Trade Fairs, etc., to promote ITDC properties;
- (iii) floating Special Packages Programmes for promoting domestic tourism;
- (iv) to improve the training quality of employees by running various courses to achieve this object;
- (v) Maintenance Engineering Wing has been placed directly under the Hotels Division for ensuring better services in the hotels; and
- (vi) a High Powered Inspection Committee has been constituted by the ITDC to review the performance and services of its hotels for taking remedial measures from time to time.

DR. V. VENKATESH : The question is about ITDC consultancy services abroad. Sir, may I know from the Government whether these ITDC hotels abroad are going to exhibit the Indian culture in addition to the other assignments which they are discharging, in order to promote Indian culture abroad ?

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : We shall consider it.

DR. V. VENKATESH : May I know from the Government whether there is any promotion of Indian trade and may I also know whether food preparations of Indian taste will be propagated in those hotels ?

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Sir, it is a very useful suggestion.

Strength of Home Guards and Increase in their Facilities

*239. **SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL :** Will

the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have given any directives to State Governments to increase the strength of Home Guards;

(b) whether Union Government have received any representation to increase the amenities and other facilities to Home Guards;

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard; and

(d) whether Union Government have advised the State Governments to increase the Rural Home Guard Units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A list of amenities and facilities which the Central Government has advised the State Governments to provide the Home Guards from time to time is given in the statement below. Recently in 1984, the Central Government has advised the State Governments to enhance the rates of duty allowance and training allowance from Rs. 8 to Rs. 15 and from Rs. 7 to Rs. 14 respectively per head per day.

(d) No, Sir.

Statement

The list of amenities and other facilities which the Central Government has advised the State Government to provide to the Home Guards :—

- (i) Duty allowance and Training allowance;
- (ii) Free uniform and washing allowance;
- (iii) Free board/lodging during training;
- (iv) Cash and other awards for gallantry and distinguished and meritorious service;