

Foreign Exchange Earnings from Tourists

*368. SHRI S. G. GHOLAP : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the foreign exchange earnings from tourists during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the names of the five countries on the top from the point of view of tourist arrivals in India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) and (b). A Statement is given below.

Statement

(a) Estimated foreign exchange earnings from tourism during the last three years were as follows :

Year	Rs. Crores
1984-85	1300
1985-86	1460
1986-87	1780

(b) The five countries on the top in terms of tourist arrivals in India during 1987 were :

- (i) Bangladesh
- (ii) United Kingdom
- (iii) Pakistan
- (iv) United States of America, and
- (v) Sri Lanka.

SHRI S.G. GHOLAP : What is the number of tourist arrival from different countries with foreign exchange earned and within is the country from where we earned the highest foreign exchange in the matter of tourist arrival ?

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : In the statement I have given the names of five countries *i.e.* Bangladesh, United Kingdom, Pakistan, United States of America and Sri Lanka. Percentage of foreign exchange earned in 1986-87 from different countries is like this. UK 14.9 per cent, USA 11.6% etc. Tourist travel has increased accordingly.

SHRI S.G. GHOLAP : What is the number of tourists from USSR with foreign exchange earned ? What are the special steps taken by the Government to attract tourists ?

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Recently steps have been taken at different levels for tourist exchange promotion with USSR. I do not have the exact figures. But last year, we started an exchange promotion programme with USSR and other places. We are trying to attract more number of tourists from USSR. Country-wise estimate of exchange promotion programmes is not available.

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : May I know whether the Ministry of Tourism has made any study to find out as to what is India's potential for attracting foreign tourists; if so, may I know to what extent this potential has been utilised successfully by us uptill now ?

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : India has great tourist potential in the world because we have got a number of archaeological monuments. Many tourist facilities have been provided after the creation of this Ministry in 1985. We have got 18 overseas offices which provide facilities for tourists to come to India. If we compare the foreign exchange earning of from tourism with that readymade garments, we are spending Rs. 25 for earning Rs. 100 from readymade garments whereas we are spending only Rs. 7 for earning Rs. 100 from tourism. This shows that tourism earns a lot of net foreign exchange for our country. The tourist infrastructure, which has been built up in our country over the years, will attract number of tourists. We have conducted surveys and studies to attract tourists coming to India in large numbers. In 1986, we have crossed the one million figure of tourists arrival in the country. It shows that the Government has taken adequate steps to see that India attracts more foreign tourists.

High Rise Buildings in Delhi

372. SHRI V. TULSIRAM† :
DR. B.L. SHAILESH :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :