

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (KUMARI UMA BHARTI): (a) The main tourist spots in Assam for which Central Financial Assistance has been provided are: Guwahati, Kaziranga, Bhalukpong, Sibsagar, Kaliabhomora, Tezpur, Barpeta, Chandrapur, Lungsung, Silchar, Bokakhat, Jakhlabanda, Batadrava, Mangaldoi, Nagaon, Pobitara, Orang, Chapar, Pancharatna, Kamakhya and Kakopathar.

(b) and (c) Central Financial Assistance has been extended to the Government of Assam during 1998-99 for construction of Yatri Niwas at Bubhan hill at a project cost of Rs. 30.50 lakhs. A project for Yatri Niwas at Kashpur has been prioritized for the year 1999-2000 at a cost Rs. 30 lakhs.

#### Promotion of Tourism in Kerala

771. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal for tourism promotion; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (KUMARI UMA BHARTI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal is for marketing Kerala in Gulf and Singapore regions. The proposed items have been dove tailed with the ongoing programme of the concerned Government of India Tourist Offices.

#### Tourist Inflow

†772. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign tourists visited during the year 1997-98 and 1998-99 alongwith their estimated number during 1999-2000, State-wise;

(b) the steps being taken for attracting foreign tourists; and

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† Original Notice of the Question was received in Hindi.