

million foreign tourists. However, the working group for the Ninth Five Year Plan reviewed the target and an 8% growth in tourist arrivals is considered feasible during Ninth Five Year Plan period.

#### **Tourism in Rajasthan**

883. SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to make tourism more attractive, comfortable and cheap in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) to (c) Development of tourism is a continuing process and is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India provides assistance for development of tourism infrastructure based on specific project proposals received from the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations and the availability of funds. During last three years, the Union Ministry of Tourism sanctioned Rs. 415.00 lakhs to Rajasthan for the implementation of various tourism projects in the State.

#### **Attracting Tourists to India**

884. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of steps recently taken/initiated/contemplated to "sell" India to international tourists; and

(b) what has been the share of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Assam as recipient States in the proposed dispensation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) and (b) Various steps have been taken by the Central Government to position India as an attractive destination in the niche markets by way of participating in fairs, advertising in Electronic and Print Media, organising of seminars, brochure support to travel trade, direct mailing, India Evenings, etc.

The Tourism products of the State of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Assam form an integral part of the overseas marketing plans.

#### **World Tourism Organisation**

885. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would provide the World Tourism Organisation a platform for consultancy in tourism development;

(b) whether there are no experts in the country who are competent to deal with tourism;

(c) whether Government are aware that sex tourism and child prostitution are very much on the agenda of Western tourist organisations; and

(d) what legal/administrative measures Government propose to make our laws more stringent and effective to prevent such misuse of our hospitality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) World Tourism Organisation (WTO) is an International Agency and a part of the UN System. It serves as a global forum for tourism policy issues and a practical source of tourism know-how. In its capacity as the World Forum for tourism issues, it provides consultancy to various countries including India.

(b) There are several experts in the country who are competent to deal with tourism.

(c) The WTO has set up a Task Force on this issue.

(d) The existing laws of the country also deal with the crimes committed in the hospitality industry.

#### **Safe pilgrimage to Amarnath, Badrinath and Kedarnath**

886. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme to make pilgrimage to Amarnath cave in Jammu and Kashmir and to Badrinath and Kedarnath in Uttar Pradesh, safe and smooth;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) to (c) Provision of safety and security of pilgrims and ensuring their smooth movement to the pilgrim centres is a State subject. However, the Department of Tourism Govt. of India provides central financial assistance for tourism facilities at various pilgrim centres on the basis of the State Governments' specific proposals.

#### International Tourist activity in Karnataka

887. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the adverse effect on international tourist activity in Karnataka following Karnataka Government's decision to acquire Mysore Palace and consequential affect of Dussehra celebrations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps taken/contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) No, Sir. The state Government has indicated that the acquisition of Mysore Palace will not have any effect on the inflow of tourists to Mysore.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### Proposal to accord status of Industry to Tourism

888. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to accord status of industry to tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) to (c) On the basis of the recommendation of the National Development Council in its meeting held on 12-13 July 1984 to accord the status of industry to tourism, as many as 25 States/UTs have given tourism the

status of industry. In addition, two other states have announced a number of incentives for the tourism industry.

The Union Government has also announced a number of incentives including tax exemption, interest subsidy, import duty concessions, etc. to hotels and tourism related industries.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

##### 12 अपराहन

##### I. Special Order of Home Ministry

##### II. Notifications of Ministry of Home Affairs

ग्रहमंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी) : श्रीमान, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

- I. राज्यपाल (परिलब्धियाँ, भत्ते और विशेषाधिकार) अधिनियम, 1982 की धारा 12 की उप-धारा (3) के अधीन असम के राज्य पाल के संबंध में राज्यपाल (भत्ते और विशेषाधिकार) नियम, 1987 की अनुसूची I और II के अंतर्गत अतिरिक्त निधियाँ उपलब्ध कराने वाले गृह मंत्रालय के विशेष आदेश संख्या 5/2/97 (एफ एंड जी) दिनांक 20 मई, 1998 की एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) :-

[पुस्तकालय में रखी गयी। देखिये सं. एलटी - /98]

- II. सीमा सुरक्षा बल अधिनियम, 1968 की धारा 141 की उप-धारा (3) के अधीन गृह मंत्रालय की निम्नलिखित अधिसूचनाओं की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में)

- (i) सीमा सुरक्षा बल (संशोधन) नियम, 1997 को प्रकाशित करने वाली कांआ 166, दिनांक 14 जनवरी, 1998।

[पुस्तकालय में रखी गयी। देखिये सं. एलटी - /98]

- (ii) सीमा सुरक्षा बल [एयर विंग अराजपत्रित (योधक) समूह 'ग' पद] भर्ती नियम, 1997 को प्रकाशित करने वाली सांकांनि 419, दिनांक 15 दिसम्बर, 1997।

[पुस्तकालय में रखी गयी। देखिये सं. एलटी - /98]