

Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management also has its Chapters at the following places:—

- (i) Kerala Institute of Tourism and Travel Studies, Thiruvananthapuram (Kerala)
- (ii) Institute of Tourism Management, Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh)
- (iii) Institute of Tourism and Travel Management, Delhi Chapter, Delhi
- (iv) Institute of Social Welfare and Business Management, Calcutta (West Bengal)
- (v) Assam Institute of Management, Guwahati (Assam)

(b) The Institutes have been set up to impart specialised training to students in Tourism related subjects to meet the growing needs of the Travel and Tourism Industry for trained man-power in the country.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration in the Central Sector.

(d) Does not arise.

Interministerial Committee on Tourism

3979. **SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA'**: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to constitute an Interministerial Committee for growth of tourism in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that an Export Promotion Council is being constituted for tourism; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and how the two are going to function?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) and (b) A Standing Committee of the Secretaries under the Chairmanship of Cabinet

Secretary has been constituted to sort out co-ordination problems and generate consensus amongst the Department with a view to facilitate the growth of tourism.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Promotion of Tourism

3980. **SHRI LAJPAT RAI**: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what concrete steps have been taken by Government to promote tourism in the country; and

(b) how can the existing tourist destinations be further improved and what means are being adopted to identify potential tourist spots in State like Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) The steps taken by the Union Government for the promotion of tourism include improvement of infrastructural facilities and tourism product by providing financial assistance to State Governments, encouraging private investment, undertaking Promotion and Publicity and Human Resources Development.

(b) Development of Tourism is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations. The Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to the state Governments/UT administrations for improving the facilities and attractions at various destinations on the basis of specific proposals received from them. The Ministry of Tourism also commissions surveys and studies and advise the State Governments. During 1997-98, based on the State's performance, the Ministry of Tourism, Govt of India sanctioned financial assistance to Punjab, Uttar

Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh as per details given below:

S.No	Name of State	Amount Sanctioned During 1997-98 (Rs. In lakhs)
1.	Punjab	52.87
2.	Uttar Pradesh	221.10
3.	Madhya Pradesh	119.31

हरिद्वार में पर्यटकों का उत्पीड़न

3981. श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र: क्या पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हरिद्वार के अर्धकुम्भ मेले पर एक शौकिया फिल्म बनाने के इच्छुक दो इतालवी पर्यटकों को ट्रेवल एजेंटों, कुछ पुलिस कर्मियों एवं टैक्सी आपरेटरों ने मिलकर हरिद्वार के बदले कश्मीर भेज दिया था;

(ख) क्या इनके बहुमूल्य सामान भी चुर लिए गए थे; और

(ग) पर्यटकों को इस तरह की परेशानी से बचाने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है?

पर्यटक मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री ओमाक अपांग): (क) जी हां। अर्धकुम्भ पर्व/मेले में शामिल होने के लिए हरिद्वार जाने की इच्छुक दो इतालवी पर्यटकों को दिल्ली के ट्रेवल एजेंटों द्वारा यह कह कर कश्मीर भेज दिया गया कि पर्व/मेले का स्थान उत प्र० में कथित दंगे के कारण बदल दिया गया है। मामले को पुलिस में दर्ज करवाया गया है तथा असदुल्ला पुत्र जफर निवासी-डल लोक, नेहरू पार्क, श्रीनगर को गिरफ्तार किया गया है। इस बात के कोई प्रमाण नहीं है कि पुलिस कार्मिक और टैक्सी आपरेटर्स भी इस मामले में शामिल थे।

(ख) नहीं। उनके साथ के बहुमूल्य वस्तुओं की चोरी नहीं हुई थी।

(ग) पर्यटन मंत्रालय-बेईमान एजेंटों और दलालों आदि की गतिविधियों को विनियमित करने के लिए

विमान पतन प्राधिकरण, दिल्ली पुलिस आदि जैसी विभिन्न एजेंसियों से नियमित रूप से विचार-विमर्श कर रहा है।

Foreign and Private Investment in Tourism

3982. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to attract foreign and private investment in tourism to boost tourism; and

(b) the negotiations proposed with travel agents association of India for developing and propagating tourist destinations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) Government of India has identified tourism as a high priority industry for foreign investment. Consequently a Foreign Investment Promotion Board and a Project Approval Board has been set up by the Government in order to clear proposal for foreign investment expeditiously. Further, foreign investment upto 51% and NRI investment upto 100% alongwith foreign collaboration in respect of technical consultancy services, franchise, management fee are under the automatic approval scheme under which such proposals are cleared by RBI itself.

(b) There is a regular dialogue between the Ministry of Tourism and Travel Agent Association/Tour Operators/Hoteliers for developing and promoting Tourism destinations in the country.

Facilities to Low Budget Tourists

3983. SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal under consideration to provide more facilities to low budget tourists in the country especially in Uttar Pradesh during the current year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?