

[Shri Viren J. Shah]

and the manner in which thousands of crores of rupees worth of orders being placed, I pursued that. I have not seen. About that company I do not know (he individual—the hon. Minister might be kmmina him—except that two telephone calis*jhxxvived by me recently. I have no spersonal grudge against anybody. If a national issuaf,could not be . brought—ksuppose J bring an issue about Airbus pur-, chase tomorrow, -would I be accused that I have- an agency of something? I don't know how to function. I am seeking your guidance.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : Mr. Shah, I was not present at that time, I have no doubt that the Vice-Chairman sitting at that time would have protected your interest. *(Interruptions)* The question of appointing a committee is not within the province of the Chair. We can only look after what is being said in the House, whether it is unparliamentary. If anything has been said which is out of order, I have no doubt that it can be removed from the records. This is as much as I can do. Now, we go on to the next business, which is ...

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Madam, it will be in the Press tomorrow

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : I have no -doubt that whatever was not on record, which has been ruled out by the Chair man;

SHRI. YASHWANT SINHA: Madam. we have all participated in the debate and various motives have been imputed as if we are functioning here as the agents of some firm or the other. And I as a Member of this honourable House feel absolutely humiliated that we are reduced to this level that we have liaison with people working for particular companies. This is the kind of allegation which has been levelled by Members of the treasury benches and that is why we demanded that let there be a House Committee which will go into this aspect.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : That is not for the Chair to decide. That is something for the Government to decide. Now, we go on to the next business : Mr. Madhav-rao Scindia. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJ MOHAN GANDHI: The House committee, Madam, Vice-Chairman *(Interruptions)*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : If the Members, all agree to that committee, let them go ahead. We can't spend all the time discussing that,

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR (Uttar Pradesh) : Let the Minister *(Interruptions)*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : I can't force him to answer. I am sorry. I am going on to the next business. I am not entering into a discussion now on this. *(Interruptions)* Mr. Madhavrao Scindia.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : Now, Shri Madhavrao Sciudia to make a statement on National Action Plan for Tourism. *(Interruptions)*

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : सारे मामले में क्योंकि घोटाला दिखता है, तो क्या आप सदन की कमेटी बनाने को तैयार हैं ? *(व्यवधान)* ... इससे तो साबित यह होता है कि इसमें कुछ घपला है ।

STATEMENT BY MINISTER—NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR TOURISM

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : Madam Vice-Chairman,

Hon'ble Members are aware that when the present Government was formed in June 1991 the tourism industry' wis feeling under a severe crises forced by both international and national circumstances.

The out break of the Gulf war at the beginning of the year disrupted tourist traffic not only to India but throughout the world. The events in East Europe and unsettled conditions in some parts of the country combined with the General Elections and the most tragic assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi created condition's in which tourism witnessed the sharpest decline in recent times.

Recognising the crucial importance of this important sector, Government initiated a series of imperative measures to change the situation.

A Tourisrh Think Tank comprising all sections of the tourism industry travel trade, hoteliers, tourist transporters and the travel media was constituted to review the situation and evolve a positive blue print for a short-term as well as a long-term Action Plan for Tourism. This was done in order to involve a wide cross-section of participants from the industry rather than foist a policy from the top. A number of meetings were held and all suggestions emanating from the tourism industry were discussed at length.

Since the State Government have a crucial and critical role to play in the promotion and development of tourism a meeting of State Tourism Ministers was convened in December 1991 to obtain their views on the future thrust areas of tourism. A series of unanimous resolutions were adopted at the meeting prescribing guidelines for the Tourism Action Plan.

A large number of Ministries of the Central Government are involved in the implementation of the Tourism Action Plan. I have personally interacted with the Ministers of Finance, External Affairs, Commerce and the Home Ministry regarding solution to the problems which the tourism trade was encountering at the Central level and many suggestions have also been incorporated in the National Action Plan for Tourism.

The National Action Plan for Tourism which I have pleasure in laying on the

Table of the House is a result of all these exercises. It is a conceptual frame work which spell out the broad thrust which is necessary for projecting India as an interesting and exciting destination of the 90s. The major objectives of the National Action Plan for Tourism are:

Increasing the share of the foreign tourist arrivals to the country in the Global Tourism Movement from the current level of 0.4% to 1% in the next five years.

Increase foreign exchange earnings from Tourism from Rs. 2,440 crores in 1990-91 to Rs. 10,000 crores by the end of the Century.

To double employment opportunities for the present level of 14 million employed persons (both direct and indirect) by the turn of the century.

To improve facilities to domestic tourists and expand them, particularly the budget category so as to ensure an affordable holiday for them.

To preservate and enrich the environment and make it an integral part of tourism development.

While retaining the traditional image, to encourage the diversification of the tourism product, particularly in the field of leisure, adventure, convention and incentive tourism.

Hon'ble Members would be interested to note the following important points of emphasis in the Action Plan :

Improvement in Tourist Infrastructure

Efforts would be made to double the present capacity of 44,400 hotel rooms in the next three years. In special areas, and specified destinations, the interest subsidy will be increased to 5% for all one, I wo and three star categories to stimulate their growth.

Promotion of Heritage Hotels

There are a large number of havelies, fortresses and palaces which could

[Shri Madhavrao Scindia] be converted to heritage hotels not only for catering to foreign/domestic tourists but also to increase incomes in rural/backward areas. A series of measures are designed to help convert this national heritage to economic usage.

Domestic Tourism

A series of measures are incorporated to promote and develop the flow of domestic tourism to different parts of the country for accelerating economic activity and promoting cultural and emotional integration.

Pilgrim Tourism

Pilgrim Tourism constitutes a significant portion of low budget domestic travellers. Government has earmarked special schemes for improving accommodation facilities, wayside amenities, infrastructural support and transport facilities for development of pilgrim centres.

Travel Trade

To encourage participation of travel trade in the tourism promotion activities, rules and procedures would be streamlined/liberalised for recognising travel agents and tour operators.

Human Resource Development

A national Culinary Institute will be set up to meet the requirements of trained manpower in the country. To correct the regional imbalance, regional institutes of hotel management and catering technology would be set up. Universities are being encouraged to start post graduate courses in tourism with financial assistance from the Central Government.

Convention Tourism To encourage convention and conference tourism, fully integrated con-

vention complexes should be set up in the country. It would be the endeavour of the Government to set up a convention city with all facilities of international standards.

Trade Fairs

In order to promote tourism in India, a Tourism Trade Fair would be held once in three years.

Foreign Investment

In tune with the liberalised industrial policy special incentives have been announced for promoting foreign investment in hotels and tourism related industry.

Destination Marketing

Instead of promoting India as a generalised entity marketing efforts will now be concentrated on 15 specific circuits/destinations in different parts of the country for concentrated development along with publicity and promotion abroad.

Special Tourism Areas

A new scheme for setting up a few special tourism areas in different parts of the country is being introduced. Special tourism areas will be defined areas with integrated infrastructure facilities along with tax concessions and fiscal incentives for eliciting investments in hotels, tourism complexes, sports and recreation facilities and the transport network. The scheme will be introduced in States which are willing to give maximum concessions for the project to flourish and grow.

Cultural Tourism

The National Action Plan for Tourism will seek to develop the multi-faceted cultural manifestation of different regions for providing to tourists : insight into the rich cultural heritage

In conclusion, I would like to say that the National Action Plan for Tourism can succeed only through the active support of Central Ministries, State Governments and the private trade engaged in the development and promotion of tourism.

I might add that in the last few months we have already been implementing some aspects of the Action Plan. I am glad to inform the Hon'ble Members that these efforts have started yielding results and from October 1991 there has been a turnaround in tourist traffic which culminated in the peak tourist arrival figure of 2,03,000 in December 1991—an all time record for any month. Figures for April 1992 are also at record levels even when compared to the best tourist year so far—1989.

Our optimism for tourism growth are therefore well founded. We need your continued advice and guidance to enable tourism to make a major contribution to the national economy and take its rightful place high on the national agenda.

I am happy to place the National Action Plan for Tourism on the Table of the House. It is a sincere endeavour to draw up a well defined and comprehensive plan of action for the promotion of tourism in India.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : Now Members have already given their names and I will call them first.

SHRI SARADA MOHANTY (Orissa) : We can have it tomorrow.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : But I will have to take the sense of the House. We will finish with the clarifications. Members will be brief. Members knew that the statement was at 6 O'clock. I request Members to be very brief because we do not have much time.

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर (उत्तर प्रदेश) :
स्थिति यह है कि अब तक कश्मीर सबसे अधिक विदेशी सैलानियों के आकर्षण का केन्द्र था। मैं

यह पूछना चाहूँगा कि जैसे कश्मीर की हालत है उसमें विदेशी या अपने देश के भीतर के जो घूमने वाले हैं, वे वहाँ नहीं जा रहे हैं। तो क्या जो पहाड़ के दूसरे रीजन हैं हिमाचल प्रदेश है अथवा उत्तर प्रदेश है। इन क्षेत्रों के लिए कोई विशेष योजना सरकार ने बनाई है या नहीं।

दूसरे, क्या कोई ऐसा विशेष साहित्य जो अब तक नहीं था, तैयार करने की योजना है और यदि योजना है तो किन लोगों के माध्यम से वह साहित्य तैयार करेंगे ? केवल डिपार्टमेंट तैयार करेगा या विदेशों के दूसरे विशेषज्ञ भी इसमें जोड़े जाएंगे।

तीसरे, कल्चरल बात कही है उसका अभिप्राय क्या है, इसका स्पष्टीकरण करें तो अच्छा होगा।

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA (Rajasthan) : Madam Vice-Chairperson, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, in brief. Here, in the Action Plan which he has submitted, I do not find really any plan for selling the desert areas of the country.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Which areas ?

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : There is no plan for selling the desert areas of the country. We have been selling our lakes, we have been selling our beaches, and we have been selling our mountains. But there is no plan for desert areas. Wherever I have travelled in the world, I have found that people have great attraction for desert areas. But they cannot go to the middle-east areas freely. That is why I would like to know from the hon. Minister. Let me know if he has any real plan for the development of the desert areas for the purpose of tourism.

The statement mentions about the promotion of heritage hotels. It talks of converting the large number of havelis, fortresses and palaces into heritage hotels. These are mostly in desert areas. There are many areas where havelis are available. I would

[Shri Santosh Bagrodia] like to give the example of Mandala. This was a very small haveli which has been developed. People go straight to Mandala and then only go to other places. Therefore, there is scope. But what is lacking is roads. There is also dearth of clean eating places. You cannot say that it is our culture. For example, in the Bhukara Restaurant in the Manrya Hotel, one is asked to eat with his hands. How can you expect to attract the tourists from abroad if such things are there ? Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has any plan to develop clean eating places for different areas, so that the tourists can be attracted.

The plan talks about pilgrim tourism in regard to low-budget domestic travellers. In this connection, I would like to point out that there are a number of Buddhist areas which the Japanese would very much like to visit. Has the Government any plan to develop the Buddhist areas ? Also, at these places, Japanese food should be provided. Of course, we have many hotels and restaurants, but the foreign tourists should get the food they need.

What is your plan ? Is it that you want to propagate India's image abroad, as a snake-charmer ? Or, do you want to project India from a different angle ? I say this because an impression is there outside the country that our country is very poor and all that, much different from what we actually are.

The plan mentions about special tourism areas. In this connection, it says that sports and recreation facilities would be developed. You say that you want to develop sports and other facilities. But I would like to give the example of Patna, where a golf course which was there was closed. Therefore, we should ensure that such facilities are there, so that we can attract the foreign tourists. If an existing golf course is closed, what sort of message the foreign tourists would get ?

You have announced the action plan for tourism now. But it is really only a general guideline.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : These are only the important points contained in the action plan. The action plan, as such, has been laid on the Table of the House.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : We will see it later on. I hope with this action plan, we will be able to develop tourism further.

श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी (पश्चिमी बंगाल) :
माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने पर्यटन के लिए राष्ट्रीय कार्य योजना की जो रूपरेखा रखी है, यह रूपरेखा हमारे देश के वैविध्य भरे सांस्कृतिक और भौगोलिक विरासत का सदुपयोग कर सके तो निश्चित रूप से इसका स्वागत है। लेकिन मुझे संदेह है कि यह राष्ट्रीय कार्य योजना हमारे देश की संस्कृति, इसकी भौगोलिक विविधता का सही रूप में इस्तेमाल कर पाएगी। इसीलिए मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहती हूँ कि मंत्री जी ने यह जो रूपरेखा रखी है इसके पीछे जो मूल समझ मेरे सामने आती है वह कुछ इस प्रकार है कि मंत्री महोदय मूल रूप से पर्यटन को उद्योग का दर्जा देना चाहते हैं या उद्योग के रूप में पर्यटन को समझते हैं। मैं अपनी बात की पुष्टि में यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि माननीय मंत्री महोदय के विभाग की जो वार्षिक रिपोर्ट है उसमें बार-बार इस बात को दोहराया गया है कि राष्ट्रीय विकास परिषद ने यह सिफारिश की थी अपने एंग्रेज पेपर में कि पर्यटन को उद्योग के रूप में स्वीकृत किया जाए और इसी आधार पर मंत्री महोदय ने आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान जिन कार्यक्रमों पर विशेष तौर से बल दिया है, उसमें कहा गया है, मैं उद्धृत करती हूँ—“संस्कृति अभियुक्त पर्यटन के स्थान पर अवकाश और फुर्सत पर्यटन पर बल।” माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदय की समझ से निश्चित रूप में संदेह बंध होता है कि हमारे देश की जो विराट सांस्कृतिक परम्परा है, अब जो नई रूपरेखा मंत्री महोदय लेकर आये है उस नई रूपरेखा के चलते क्या इस सांस्कृतिक धरोहर की रक्षा हो पायेगी, सिर्फ सांस्कृतिक

धरोहर ही नहीं बल्कि मैं समझती हूँ हमारे देश में पर्यटन का आकर्षण मुख्य रूप में हमारे देश की संस्कृति रही है। अगर हम अपने देश की संस्कृति को गौण कर देंगे तो पर्यटन को हम कहाँ तक बढ़ावा दे पायेंगे मुझे इस बारे में संदेह है। (समय की घंटी)

मेरा दूसरा सवाल यह है कि मंत्री महोदय ने अपनी इस रूपरेखा में इस बात पर बल नहीं दिया कि हमारी जो सांस्कृतिक धरोहर है उनकी रक्षा कैसे की जायगी। जबकि मंत्री महोदय ने अपनी इस योजना में यह कहा कि हैरिटेज होटल बनाने का प्रस्ताव है। जो हमारे पुराने किले हैं, पुरानी हवेलियाँ हैं उनको होटलों में तब्दील किया जायेगा। मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहती हूँ कि हमारी पुरानी विरासत को इस तरह के व्यवसाय की चीज बना देंगे या आपके पास इसकी कोई विस्तृत रूपरेखा है उसका एक हिस्सा आप बनायेंगे या उस विरासत को अधुण रखते हुए उसका व्यावसायिक इस्तेमाल करेंगे? कहीं भी आपकी इस रूपरेखा में यह चीज स्पष्ट नहीं है। इसलिए मुझे पूरी तरह से समझ नहीं आ रहा है कि मंत्री महोदय इस पूरी रूपरेखा में किस तरह से हमारी पुरानी विरासत के साथ सुलूक कर पायेंगे। विभिन्न देशों में हम देखते हैं कि वहाँ के साहित्यकार और कलाकार के नाम पर कई पर्यटन स्थल बने हुए हैं। (समय की घंटी) मैं क्लेरिफिकेशन पूछ रही हूँ।

मंत्री महोदय क्या यह बतायेंगे कि हमारे देश में जिसकी इतनी बड़ी सांस्कृतिक विरासत है इस तरह का इस्तेमाल नहीं हो सकता कि हमारे देश में जो हमारे नख जागरण के मनीषी हुए हैं जैसे राजाराम मोहन राय, ईश्वरचन्द्र विद्यासागर, रवीन्द्र नाथ, प्रेम चन्द जैसे लोगों को लेकर क्या हम पर्यटन स्थलों को विकसित नहीं कर सकते? मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहूँगी कि इन तमाम बातों पर रोज़नी डालें और इसके अलावा यद्यपि आपने अपनी रूपरेखा में कहा है कि मध्यम वर्ग

के लिए वह कुछ उपाय करेंगे उनको पर्यटन की सुविधाएं देने के लिए लेकिन जहाँ तक मैं समझती हूँ इनकी एक वार्षिक रिपोर्ट को देखने से पता चलता है कि पिछले साल 1991-92 में उन्होंने एक भी ऐसी योजना को स्वीकृति नहीं दी है। यहाँ तक कि दिल्ली में जो निवास योजना थी उस पर भी अमल नहीं किया गया। मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि क्या उन्हें अर्थ मंत्रालय से इस तरह के संकेत मिले हैं कि आगामी वर्षों में मध्यम वर्ग कंगाल होने जा रहा है और इसीलिए भारत के मध्यम वर्ग पर किसी प्रकार का नियोजन न करें, क्योंकि मध्यम वर्ग पर किसी प्रकार का नियोजन करने के बाद उनकी सारी की सारी पर्यटन योजनाएं विफल हो जायेंगी। इसलिये अपने पर्यटन का मूल केन्द्र या तो विदेशी पर्यटक बनायें जायें या उच्च आय वर्ग के लोगों को बनाया जाए। मैं चाहूँगी मंत्री महोदय मेरे इन प्रश्नों को स्पष्ट करें।

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES (Goa) : Thank you, Madam. I have to congratulate the Minister and his Ministry for the perest-roika he has introduced in this industry. It is a known fact that tourism inflow from foreign countries has increased from 12 per cent in November 1991 to 42 per cent in February 1992. I feel this is the outcome of the campaign the Ministry had in 1991 by declaring that year as 'Visit India Tourism Year'. I would like to know whether he would continue this scheme as a permanent scheme to sell India to the foreign tourists and also give more and more funds for this scheme to popularise India.

Secondly, Madam, the Minister has also mentioned, though not in the statement, that he would request the State Government to have a tax holiday for 10 years to develop tourism and the State Government and the local self-Government bodies should not collect any taxes. I would like to know whether he would make a similar appeal to the Central Government agencies also because I am glad that the hon. Finance Minister has reduced the import tax on

[Shri. John F. Fernandes] motor vehicles for the trade of tourism from 50 per cent to 40 per cent. Will the hon. Minister make a request to other Ministries to come down and reciprocate with those States which are ready to implement his suggestion and his appeal? Madam, the Minister has mentioned in the statement about the increase in foreign exchange. From Rs. 2,440 crores in 1990-91, the Minister is expecting about Rs. 10,000 crores by the end of this century. I am happy that by February 1992 the tourism industry has earned about Rs. 3,300 crores of foreign exchange. The Government has imposed 15 per cent tax under the FTS—Foreign Travel Scheme—and this 15 per cent tax has pushed up the dollar. And this dollar, instead of going to the official windows, goes to *hawala* transactions. I would like the hon. Minister to take my suggestion to link this 15 per cent tax not to the dollar but to the air ticket. That is, when I buy an air ticket, I have to pay FTS tax on my ticket and not on the dollars so that the value of the dollar is not appreciated and it does not go into *hawala* transactions.

Madam, again the hon. Minister has mentioned about increasing the number of hotel rooms. In Goa we have plenty of rooms, but the problem lies with the airlines. I want to know whether the Minister will increase the frequency of flights so as to cater to the rooms. I think the Minister will have no problem because the Civil Aviation Ministry is his own Ministry. Therefore, I would like to know whether he would see to it that the rooms are matched with the airlines seats to different tourist

destinations, specially international tourist destinations like Goa.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : Please, conclude now. There are many other Members.

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES : It is an important suggestion. The hotels are offering off season rates for rooms. I want to know whether the Minister would also contemplate seeing that domestic tourism is increased by Indian Airlines offering off season rates for tourists against reservations for hotel rooms.

Madam, the final point I would like to make is that the Minister is offering as tot of facilities and special concessions to travel agencies for importing cars, aero-boats, speed boats and what not. So I want to know whether he will see to it that these travel agencies are registered as these travel agencies are mushrooming as they have no scheme of licensing. I want to know whether he would contemplate to have any central licensing instrument so that these facilities are not misused by these people.

Thank you, Madam.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : Before I call the next Member, I would like to take the sense of the House. After the clarification and the Minister's reply, there will be a reply by the Minister of Industry to the discussion on the Ministry of Industry. Do you want to have it now or

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Tomorrow.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : Tomorrow the Calligraphic motion is there. .
{Interruptions}

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (pond cherry) ; After that .(Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAIAN) : Calling-Attenjjpn motion will take precedence over everything. So it will have to be after that. All right.

Now I request the Members to be very brief. If All the Members have to be accommodated, you will have to be very brief. Mr. Narayanasamy.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Thank you, Madam Vice-Chairman. The hon. Minister has brought the National Action Plan. I .quite agree with the hon. Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation that there was a full in the foreign tourist inflow to our country in 1991 and also in 1990. In both the years the tourism sector was ignored and the various reasons the hon. Minister has mentioned are quite convincing.

Madam, both the Ministers are taking keen interest in the development of tourism •in this country. They called the Tourism Ministers of the various States and gave (hem guidelines on how tourism is to be improved.

Madam, as far as the northern sector is concerned, the concentration is more there. Even in that, when tourism was closed in Jammu and Kashmir, especially in the Srinagar area, the concentration was only at Simla. In Western U.P. and also in Himachal Pradesh there are various pleaces of tourist importance, but they are being ignored. The reason is, there is no proper coordination between the Ministry here and the State Governments concerned. Therefore, Madam, I request the hon. Minister that in U.P. and also in Himachal Pradesh the tourism sector can be developed where tourists coming from abroad and also tourists who go from other parts of country, can have a better stay there. It will be a welcome measure.

Secondly, Madam, the Taj Mahal, every body has been (*Time bell rings*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : Two minutes.'

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Madam, I have not started yet.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI IAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : No, no. You have to finish now.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Yes, yes. I will finish, complete it within my State.

Madam, the Taj Mahal we have seen.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAIAN) : Please be brief.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Madam, why I am saying is that Agra has the largest inflow of tourists from abroad and also from within our country. But, if you see Agra, it has an ugly look. The tourists who go there, are not attracted. The reason is that the State Government is not developing that particular city. Even the tourists who go there, are not getting even their food. They are concentrating only on the Taj Mahal area. When you go to Agra, there is no drinking water. This is the problem faced by the tourists, which I have seen with my own eyes. Therefore, Madam, when we develop the tourists spots, all the infrastructure has to be developed- That is very important as far as the States are concerned and the hon. Minister has to look into it.

As far as the southern places are concerned—I am coming to the last point—a lot of pilgrim centres are there in the southern parts of the country. But the Tourism Ministry is picking up and choosing pilgrim centres. Madam, in Thanjavur it has been ignored, and various other important pilgrim centres have not been given proper faculties. State Governments' coordination has also to be taken. When the Central Government initiates any action plan, the State Governments should be taken into confidence. The Central Government has to give them full facilities for the purpose of developing tourism.

Madam, there was a scheme which I raised several times in this House and also in the Consultative Committee. There was

[Shri V. Narayanasamy] the Golden Necklace Scheme covering all the southern States, which was brought and shelved. Now I find that only the tourist spot has been identified.

Madam, we have got a beautiful city, Pondicherry, from where the hon. Minister of State comes. In that place we have got a beach of more than six to seven kilometres.

SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN (Andhra Pradesh) : Don't worry. He will do it. He is from Pondicherry.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Yes, I am telling this to the Minister.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : Please, let him conclude now.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Yes, I am going to conclude now. On the picnic spot the sea-shore side can be developed. But, Madam, it has been totally ignored. About ten years ago the system was there, facilities were there, infrastructure was there. Thereafter it was ignored. Therefore, Madam, I would like to know this specifically as a person coming from the State. Our revenue is much less. Tourism we can develop like that in Goa. Such an infrastructure is available there. Moreover, foreign tourists, specially French citizens, are going there. They are prepared to go there. Therefore, Madam, I would like to request the hon. Minister to see that the coastal side in my State is taken care of, and it should be developed.

डा० संजय सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, धन्यवाद। माननीय मंत्री जी बहुत उत्साही और परिश्रमी हैं। उनके एक्शन प्लान को सुना लेकिन सुनने पर कोई खास उत्साह नहीं मिला। जो खास बात (व्यवधान)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : What I am saying is that Action Plan is this document which is in detail. These are just very general introductory remarks about it.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Madam, one minute. {Interruptions}

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : Have you. a point of order ? Please, let him finish.

डा० संजय सिंह : जो सब से खास चीज इसमें नहीं दिखी, भारत अपना देश क्लाइमेट के हिसाब से, भौगोलिक और टेरेन के हिसाब से बहुत ही आकर्षक देश है। इसमें जिस तरह भारत सरकार और तमाम प्रदेश सरकारों की व्यवस्था चल रही है, मैं नहीं समझता कि वह काफी है। जो सब से बेसिक चीज की कमी है वह यह है कि अपने देश के पर्यटन विभाग की एक ऐसी कम्प्रीहेन्सिव नीति नहीं है जिससे कि विदेश और अपने देश के पर्यटकों के लिए एक ही समय में उनके जाने की, उनके रुकने की और तमाम सुविधाएं उपलब्ध हों। एक ही समय में कहीं पर जाड़ा है, कहीं पर गर्मी है, कहीं पर रेगिस्तान है, कहीं पर जंगल है और हर जगह कोई न कोई नेशनल और इंटरनेशनल पर्यटकों के लिए उनके सुविधाओं के लिए, उनके आकर्षण के लिए व्यवस्था पैदा की जा सकती है। अभी ऐसी कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है। दूसरी चीज, केन्द्र सरकार और प्रदेश सरकार से जो सुविधाएं हैं उनमें कोई कोआर्डिनेशन नहीं है। कोई एयर लिंक, रेल लिंक रोड लिंक की ऐसी कम्प्रीहेन्सिव व्यवस्था नहीं है राष्ट्रीय एवं अंतर्राष्ट्रीय एयरपोर्ट्स पर सम्यक् व्यवस्था नहीं है। पूरी सूचनाओं की कमी है जहां तक होटलों की चर्चा है, मैं नहीं समझता कि मंत्री जी स्वयं आई०टी०डी०सी० के होटल से संतुष्ट होंगे। इनको चलाने के बारे में य चर्चा भी कई बार आई है कि इनका प्राइवेटाइजेशन किया जा रहा है या कुछ प्राइवेट कम्पनी को दिये जा रहे हैं, तो इसके बारे में भी सोचना चाहिए... (समय की घंटी) मेरे कहने में सिर्फ एक ही मकसद है और मैं सिर्फ यह आ करना चाहता हूँ—समय की कमी है—कि कोई ऐसी नीति बने जिससे कि विदेशों में जो भारत की इम्बेसीज हैं उनके माध्यम से जो भी दूरियां आयें उनको पूरी जानकारी हों। कहां जाना है, कहां रुकना है इसके लिए कम्प्रीहेन्सिव नीति

तैयार की जाए और मैं समझता हूँ कि थिक टैंक की राय जरूर ली जाए लेकिन इंटरनेशनल स्तर पर बहुत सारी जो टूरिस्ट कम्पनीज है जो कन्सलटेंसी देती है उनके माध्यम से पूरा लम्बा देश भर का प्लान बने जिससे कि और भी ज्यादा रेवेन्यू आ सके और स्मूथ टूरिज्म इस देश में चल सके ।

कुछ बहुत सारे बौद्ध सर्किट है, बहुत सारे सेंटर है । उत्तर प्रदेश भी बड़ा महत्वपूर्ण है । इस बारे में मैं समझता हूँ कि जिस तरह से कश्मीर में आज हालात है, ननीताल भी उत्तर प्रदेश में एक छोटी सी वैली है, हिल स्टेशन है, वहां भी टेरोरिज्म फैल रहा है । इससे जो भी देश का या विदेश का टूरिस्ट आता है उसकी सुरक्षा की खास गारंटी नहीं है । इसके बारे में भी माननीय मंत्री जी विचार करेंगे ।

सबसे बड़ी प्रमुख चीज यह है कि एक कम्प्री-हेंसिव नीति बनाये जिससे कि इस देश में राष्ट्रीय और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय टूरिस्ट के लिए एक नेटवर्क पैदा हो जिससे कि यह व्यवस्था ठीक चल सके ।

श्री मोहम्मद खलीलुर रहमान : मंडम वाईस चेयरमैन, आनरेबल मिनिस्टर की जानिब से यह जो नेशनल एक्शन प्लान आफ टूरिज्म का एलान किया गया है मैं समझता हूँ कि यह वक्त की अहमतरिन जरूरत है इस वजह से कि पिछले चंद सालों से हमारे पास का टूरिज्म, यहां जो हालात है, ला एण्ड आर्डर की प्राब्लम है, टेरोरिज्म की जो सूरतेहाल है इससे टूरिज्म की जो एक्टिविटीज थी वे बिल्कुल लल हो कर रह गयी थीं लिहाजा इस बात की बेहद जरूरत थी कि एक एक्शन प्लान बनाकर बाजबता फिर दुबारा इसे फअाल और सरगर्भ किया जाए । इसके लिए प्लान बड़ा अच्छा है मगर मैं समझता हूँ कि इसके इम्प्लीमेंटेशन के ताल्लुक से कुछ शुबहा है । जब तक हमारे मुल्क के हालात इतिहाई पुरसुकून न हों उस वक्त तक मैं समझता हूँ कि 100 परसेंट आपका जो प्लान है वह कहां तक आप इम्प्लीमेंट कर सकेंगे इस वजह से कि अभी जो बात कही

गयी है कि इस सदी के खतम तक 10 हजार करोड़ की फोरन एक्सचेंज का आपने तख्मीना बनाया है और मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर काश्मीर के हालात बेहतर हो जाएं और हमारे फोरन के टूरिस्ट काश्मीर जाना शुरू करें तो इस 10 हजार से भी बढ़कर हमको फोरन एक्सचेंज मिल सकेगा । लिहाजा आपने यह बात जो कही है अपने स्टेटमेंट में कि होम मिनिस्ट्री से और फोरन अफेयर्स से भी आप कोआर्डिनेशन करने वाले है यह बड़ी अच्छी चीज है । लिहाजा यह जो हमारे पास का टूरिज्म है यह एक सनत है और इससे काफी फायदा हो सकता है... (समय की घंटी)

हमारा मुल्क काफी बड़ा मुल्क है । शुमाल की सूरतेहाल अलग है, जुनूब की सूरतेहाल अलग है, मशरिक की सूरतेहाल अलग है और मगरिब की सूरतेहाल अलग है । कई किस्म के मौसम है । इतने काफी यहां वसायल मौजूद है कि बेहतरीन तरीके से इंडिया का एक टूरिज्म सेंटर के तरीके से इस्तेमाल किया जा सकता है और जो डोमेस्टिक टूरिस्ट है इससे हटकर फोरन टूरिस्ट का सेंटर बना सकते हैं । बहरहाल मैं यही नेक तवक्कों के साथ कहूंगा कि आपने जो प्लान पेश किया है अगर इस प्लान को आप इम्प्लीमेंट करने की कोशिश करेंगे तो यकीनन आप काबिले मुबारकबाद रहेंगे शुक्रिया ।

شری محمد خلیل الرحمن "آئندہ ہمارا پیش
میدم وائس چیئرمین آئندہ نیشنل ٹورزم کی جانب
سے یہ جو نیشنل ایکشن پلان آف ٹورزم کا
اعلان کیا گیا ہے میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ یہ
وقت کی اہم ترین ضرورت ہے اس وجہ سے
کہ پچھلے چند سالوں سے ہمارے پاس کا
ٹورزم یہاں جو حالات ہیں۔ لائینڈ آؤٹ
کی پرالیم ہے۔ ٹورزم کی جو صورت حال ہے

*[] Transliteration in Arabic Script

और तबज्जह दिलाना चाहता था, पर इस वक्त मुझे वह बात कहने का मौका मिल गया।

मंत्री जी आप जानते हैं कि होटल कार्पोरेशन आफ इंडिया, वह भी आपकी ही मिनिस्ट्री का एक पार्ट है। बम्बई में उसके दो होटल हैं। एक श्रीनगर में है और एक दिल्ली में है। सेंटोर होटल, श्रीनगर के अलावा जो सेंटोर होटल्स हैं, मेरे क्वाल में वह प्राफिट में जा रहे हैं। इसके बरक्स आई० टी० डी० सी० के जो होटल्स हैं वह घाटे में जा रहे हैं अलावा अशोक यात्री निवास के— मैं आपकी तबज्जह दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि अशोक यात्री निवास दिल्ली की सब से अच्छी लोकैलिटी में बना हुआ है और उसके बिल्कुल बराबर ही में कनिष्का होटल है। अगर आप सुबह फिर देखें, तो अशोक यात्री निवास, जहाँ ठहरने के लिये किराया सिर्फ दो सौ रुपये है, वह बहुत ही कम है और उसके मुकाबले में 5-स्टार होटल आपने बनाया हुआ है, दोनों सरकारी हैं, बिल्कुल बराबर-बराबर क्वालिटी हैं, तो 5-स्टार होटल घाटे में जा रहा है और अशोक यात्री निवास जो बहुत आम यात्री के लिये, टूरिस्ट के लिये है, वह बसबस प्राफिट दे रहा है, कम दे रहा है, लेकिन बराबर दे रहा है, घाटा नहीं दे रहा है।

तो उसके अलावा हमारे चार और होटल हैं, जो घाटा दे रहे हैं। तो मुझे पहले तो आपसे यह जानना है—(समय की घंटी)—कि यह जो हमारी होटल कार्पोरेशन आफ इंडिया है, आखिर हम देखें कि हमारी मिनिस्ट्री के अन्दर एक डिपार्टमेंट तो प्राफिट में जा रहा है, वही 5-स्टार होटल चला करके उसके

मुकाबले में जो हमारे दिल्ली के होटल्स हैं, वह घाटे में क्यों जा रहे हैं और क्या अगर हमको क्योंकि टूरिस्ट एड्रेशन यहां ज्यादा से ज्यादा बढ़ाना है, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि तजुर्बा यह बताता है कि जो आपके सस्ते होटल बना रखे हैं, वह ज्यादा चल रहे हैं और प्राफिटेबल हैं और जैसा कि सुबह किसी आन्तरेबल मेम्बर ने तबज्जह भी दलाई थी कि आपके जो 5-स्टार होटल हैं, वह एक पर्टिकुलर क्लास के लिए, बहुत कम लिमिटेड लोगों के लिये मुल्क में हैं और उसके बावजूद वह करोड़ों रुपये का घाटा दे रहे हैं।

तो क्या आप इस पर गौर करें कि हमारे जो होटल 5-स्टार की हैसियत से नहीं चल पा रहे हैं—बात आई थी कि हम उनको ठेके पर दे देंगे, प्राइवेटाइजेशन कुछ कर देंगे, लेकिन मेरी तजवीज यह है कि जब हम अशोक यात्री निवास जैसा होटल प्राफिट में चला सकते हैं, तो क्यों न हम इन दूसरे होटलों को कम किराये के होटल बना करके टूरिस्ट का एड्रेशन इसमें ज्यादा से ज्यादा बढ़ायें, क्योंकि मेरा क्वाल है कि सरकारी जो हमारे होटल्स हैं वह प्राइवेट होटल्स का कम्पीटीशन में मुकाबला नहीं कर सकते। (समय की घंटी)

तो मेरा क्वाल है कि अगर मंत्री महोदय इस पर गौर करें कि जो हमारे होटल्स दिल्ली के अंदर घाटे में जा रहे हैं, उनको वह इस स्टाईल पर चलायें जिस तरह की अशोक यात्री निवास है, तो हम बहुत अच्छा रेवेन्यू कमा सकते हैं और हमारे तमाम होटल घाटे से निकल करके प्राफिट की जद में आ सकते हैं।

[شری मोहम्मद अफजल उर्फ मौम अफजल]

बस मैं यही कहना चाहता था और उसके साथ मैं मुबारक कोशिश दूंगा मंत्री जी को, कि जो एक्शन प्लान उन्होंने पेश किया है, वह बहुत अच्छा है और इसके फूटफुल रिजल्ट्स हुए हैं। आपके पास दो मिनिस्ट्रीज हैं—एक सिविल एविएशन है और एक टूरिज्म है। टूरिज्म को अगर आप देखें, तो सारी कारगर्दगी इसकी बहुत अच्छी है। इसके मुकामले में सिविल एविएशन की कारगर्दगी, एयर-इण्डिया, इंडियन एयरलाइन्स वगैरा की बहुत ज्यादा सेटिस-फैक्ट्री नहीं है, लेकिन सिविल एविएशन के अन्दर जो होटल है, वह ज्यादा अच्छा चल रहा है और टूरिज्म के सारे महकमे अच्छे चल रहे हैं, लेकिन होटल खराब चल रहे हैं। तो यह कंटाडिक्शन जो है, इन पर आप जरा गौर फरमायें और मेरा क्याल है कि अगर आप तवज्जह दें, तो इस मामले को हल किया जा सकता है और हम काफी कोरेंट एक्सचेंज करा सकते हैं।

श्री محمد افضل عرفتم۔ افضل اتم پرش

میڈم آپ کے ماتیم سے میں سب سے پہلے

تو منسٹری جی کو مبارکباد دیتا ہوں۔ ایکشن

پلان پیش کرنے کے لئے اور جیسا کہ ٹورزم

منسٹری نے ابھی بنایا بھی ہے کچھ دن پہلے

کہ کافی اچھا ہم نے ڈیپارٹمنٹ فارن ایکسچینج

کمایا ہے اور اس ایکشن پلان کے ذریعے

سے ہم ٹورزم کو کافی بڑھاوا دے سکتے ہیں

آج بھی منسٹری جی جو دیتے اور ایک

[+] Transliteration in Arabic Script

سوال جو آئی ٹی۔ ٹی۔ سی کے ہوٹل ہیں

ان کے تعلق سے یہاں سامنے آیا تھا۔ میں

اس وقت آپ سے ایک سوال پوچھنا چاہتا

اور توجہ دلانا چاہتا تھا۔ پر اس وقت مجھے

وہ بات کہنے کا موقع مل گیا۔

منسٹری جی آپ جانتے ہیں کہ ہوٹل کارپوریشن

آف انڈیا وہ بھی آپ کی منسٹری کا ایک پارٹ ہے

جبکہ میں اسکے دو ہوٹل ہیں۔ ایک سرنگر میں

اور ایک دلی میں ہے سنٹور ہوٹل سرنگر کے علاوہ

جو سنٹور ہوٹل ہیں میرے خیال میں وہ پراؤٹ

میں جا رہے ہیں اسکے برعکس آئی ٹی۔ ٹی۔ سی

کے جو ہوٹل ہیں وہ گھٹے میں جا رہے ہیں

علاوہ اشوکا یاتری نواس کے میں آپ کی توجہ دلانا چاہتا

ہوں کہ اشوکا یاتری نواس دلی کی سب سے

اچھی لوکیلیٹی میں بنا ہوا ہے اور اس کے

بالکل برابر ہی میں کنسٹکا ہوٹل ہے۔ اگر آپ

صبح فیکر دیکھیں تو اشوکا یاتری نواس

جہاں ٹھہرنے کیلئے کرایہ صرف دو سو روپے

ہے۔ وہ بہت ہی کم ہے اور اس کے مقابلے

میں فائٹو اسٹار ہوٹل آپ نے بنایا ہوا ہے

دونوں سرکاری ہیں۔ بالکل برابر بلڈنگز ہیں

فائٹو اسٹار ہوٹل گھٹے میں جا رہا ہے اور

اشوکا یاتری نواس جو بہت عام یاتری کیلئے

ٹو ویسٹ کے لئے تھا وہ برابر پراؤٹ

رہا ہے۔ کم دے رہا ہے۔ لیکن برابر دے

رہا ہے۔ گھٹا نہیں دے رہا ہے۔
 تو اس کے علاوہ ہمارے چار
 اور ہٹل ہیں۔ جو گھٹا دے رہے ہیں
 تو مجھے پہلے تو آپ سے یہ جاننا ہے۔
 ”وقت کی گھنٹی“... کہ یہ جو ہماری
 ہٹل کارپوریشن آف انڈیا ہے آخر ہم
 دیکھیں کہ ہماری منسٹری کے اندر ایک
 ڈیپارٹمنٹ تو پراڈکٹ میں جا رہا ہے
 وہی فائبر اسٹار ہٹل چلا کر کے اس
 کے مقابلے میں جو ہمارے دلی کے
 ہوٹل ہیں۔ وہ گھٹے ہیں کچھ جا رہے ہیں
 ہیں اور کیا اگر ہم کو کیونکر ٹورسٹ اٹریکشن
 یہاں زیادہ سے زیادہ بڑھانا ہے تو میں
 یہ سمجھتا ہوں کہ تجربہ یہ بتاتا ہے کہ
 جو آپ نے سستے ہوٹل بنا رکھے ہیں وہ
 زیادہ چل رہے ہیں اور پرائیویٹ ہیں
 اور جیسا کہ صبح کسی آنریبل ممبر نے توجہ
 دلائی تھی کہ آپ کے جو فائبر اسٹار ہوٹل
 ہیں۔ وہ ایک پریسیکٹر کلاس کے لئے بہت
 کم ٹیسٹ ہو گئے تھے لئے مدد میں ہیں
 اور اس کے باوجود وہ کروڑوں روپے
 کا گھٹا دے رہے ہیں۔

تو کیا آپ اس پر غور کریں گے کہ
 ہمارے جو ہوٹل فائبر اسٹار کی حیثیت سے
 نہیں چل پا رہے ہیں۔ بات آئی تھی کہ ہم

ان کو ٹیکے پر دے دیں گے۔ پرائیویٹائزیشن
 کچھ کر دیں گے۔ لیکن میری تجویز یہ ہے کہ
 جب ہم شوک یا تری نو اس جیسا ہوٹل پراڈکٹ
 میں چلا سکتے ہیں تو کمپنوں نے ہم ان دوسرے
 ہوٹلوں کو کم کر کے ہوٹل بنا کر کے ٹورسٹ
 کا اٹریکشن اس میں زیادہ سے زیادہ بڑھائیں
 کیوں کہ میرا خیال ہے کہ ہر کاری جو
 ہمارے ہوٹل میں ہے وہ پرائیویٹ ہوٹل
 کا کمیشن میں مقابلہ نہیں کر سکتے۔۔۔
 وہ وقت کی گھنٹی ہے۔۔۔

تو میرا خیال ہے کہ اگر منتری ہوسے
 اس پر غور کریں کہ جو ہمارے ہوٹل دلی
 کے اندر گھٹے میں جا رہے ہیں ان
 کو وہ اس اسٹائل پر چلا میں جس طرح
 کہ شوک یا تری نو اس ہے۔ تو ہم بہت
 اچھا ویونیو کما سکتے ہیں اور ہمارے کام
 ہوٹل گھٹے سے نکل کر کے پراڈکٹ کی
 زد میں آ سکتے ہیں۔

بس میں یہی کہنا چاہتا تھا اور اس
 کے ساتھ میں مبارکباد دوں گا منتری جی
 کو۔ کہ جو انکیشن انہوں نے پیش
 کیا ہے وہ بہت اچھا ہے اور اس
 کے فوٹ فل وزلٹس ہوتے ہیں۔

آپ کے پاس دو منسٹریز ہیں۔ ایک
 سول ایوی ایشن ہے اور ایک ٹورزم ہے۔

ٹورزم کو اگر آپ دیکھیں تو ساری
کارکردگی اس کی بہت اچھی ہے اس
کے مقابلے میں سول الوی ایشن کی
کارکردگی اتنا اندر یا اتنا اٹل نہیں
وغیرہ کی بہت زیادہ سیٹیفیکیشن ہے
لیکن سول الوی ایشن کے اندر
جو ہوٹل ہے۔ وہ زیادہ اچھا چل رہا
ہے اور ٹورزم کے سارے ٹکڑے اچھے چل
رہے ہیں لیکن ہوٹل خراب چل رہے
ہیں تو یہ کنٹرول کمنشن جو ہے۔ ان پر آپ
ذرا غور فرمائیے اور میرا خیال ہے
کہ اگر آپ توجہ دیں تو اس مسئلے کو
حل کیا جاسکتا ہے اور ہم کافی فارن
ایکس چینج کما سکتے ہیں۔
”ختم شد“

श्री महेश्वर सिंह (हिमाचल प्रदेश) :
उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मंत्री महोदय ने पर्यटन एक्शन
प्लान के ऊपर इस माननीय सदन में जो यह
महत्वपूर्ण वक्तव्य दिया है और इस माननीय
सदन का जो ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित किया
है, इसके लिये मैं इनके प्रति आभार व्यक्त
करता हूँ, लेकिन मैं आपके माध्यम से एक
आग्रह करना चाहूँगा कि ऐसे महत्वपूर्ण विषय
पर केवल यात्रा स्पष्टीकरण मांग करके बात
बनने वाली नहीं है।

7-00 P.M.

इस पर बिस्तृत चर्चा की आवश्यकता है
इससे मैं यह कहना चाहूँगा कि आपको विदित
ही है हिमाचल प्रदेश और विशेषकर कुल्लू

मनाली, जैसा मैंने प्रातः कहा था कि न केवल
इस देश में बल्कि विदेश में भी "देवभूमि"
के नाम से प्रसिद्ध है और वहाँ पर न केवल स्वदेशी
बल्कि विदेशी पर्यटक भी आते हैं। आज
हिमाचल प्रदेश में तीन एयरपोर्ट हैं और
वहाँ पर वायुदूत मुख्य तौर पर आज उड़ाने
चलाता है। गत वर्ष के मुकाबले में इस वर्ष
उन्होंने किसए में 65 प्रतिशत वृद्धि की है,
जो कि सर्वाधिक है। उदाहरणतः यहाँ से
कुल्लू के लिये डेढ़ घंटा लगती है। डेढ़ घंटे
की उड़ान है और पिछले साल तक 1290.00
रुपये किराया था। इस साल एकदम 2040.00
रुपये कर दिया गया। शिमला के लिये
916.00 रुपये था, वह बढ़ाकर 1637.00
कर दिया गया है। तो मैं मंत्री महोदय से
इस सर्वाधिक वृद्धि का कारण जानना चाहूँगा
और उनसे आपके माध्यम से यह आग्रह
करना चाहूँगा कि वायुदूत के लोगों को बुला
करके इस प्रकार की इन्स्ट्रक्शन दें कि यह जो
सर्वाधिक वृद्धि उन्होंने की है इसमें कटौती
की जाए। क्या पर्यटन को बढ़ावा देने की
दृष्टि से मंत्री महोदय इस बात को सुनिश्चित
करेंगे कि ऐसे स्थानों के लिये सन्वीडाइज्ड
प्लाइट्स चलाई जाएँ? इसके अतिरिक्त
हिमाचल में न केवल कुल्लू मनाली या शिमला
बल्कि जितने हमारे जन-जातीय क्षेत्र हैं
विशेष कर ओ लेह-लद्दाख का जब से लेकर
यह काश्मीर में जो कुछ अभिघटित हो रहा
है जितने भी विदेशी या स्वदेशी पर्यटक जाते
हैं वह कुल्लू मनाली-रोहतांग दर्रे से होकर
आज लेह-लद्दाख जा रहे हैं, लेकिन वहाँ
बेसिक जो सुविधाएँ हैं वह भी पर्यटकों को
उपलब्ध नहीं है। तो क्या मंत्री महोदय इस
ओर भी कोई ध्यान देंगे?

SHRI VISHVJIT P. SINGH (Maharashtra) :
Madam Vice-Chairman, I am very grateful to you
for allowing me to seek clarifications, I would,
first of all congratulate the hon. Minister. After
a very long time, we have finally got a
comprehensive

and forward-looking tourism policy. I hope that with this policy we will be able to do something. I am personally very grateful to the hon. Minister because he has announced a scheme on the Heritage Hotel. I especially called for the Action Plan I from the notice office to see it. And I am very grateful to the hon. Minister for intra- during this. We could get some benefit from this.

Now, I would like to seek two or three simple clarifications. The first is on pilgrim tourism. I saw the Action Plan. In the statement as well as in the Action Plan itself, the emphasis is on domestic pilgrims. Let us not forget that there is a large number of NRIs who want to come to India as pilgrim if only facilities were available. This sphere is a good foreign exchange earner. All other countries who have their nationals abroad, call them back to their countries as tourists to earn foreign exchange from them. I think the hon. Minister could use this suggestion. For example, in the United States, the biggest earning community is the Sikh community. They are the top income-earners in the United States. But the Sikh pilgrim centres are not covered even by air. You need to augment these facilities. You need to give them some hotel rooms. You need to add some more facilities. You need to have package tours for them, pilgrim package tours for Indians, done by the Government. If the Finance Ministry is innovative enough to introduce an India Development Bond, I am sure, the Minister for Tourism can be innovative enough to offer a package of Pilgrim India to Indian nationals abroad.

Madam, some special tourism areas have been mentioned. I specifically called For the Action Plan and saw it. At page 18 of the Action Plan, destinations are mentioned. Out of the six Action Plans, there are four which have something to do with water. (*Time-bell rings*). If you will permit me without the interruption of the bell_____

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAIAN) : You will have to finish now.

SHRI VISHVJIT P. SINGH: Just stretch the time a little bit. As you are all aware, the high yield areas—I am talking about destination, Mr. Minister, not the surface—in tourism are three—golf tourism, ski tourism and water sports tourism. I can see that your emphasis is on water sport tourism because you have stated that Lakshadweep Islands, Andaman Islands and Muthukadu beach are all water destinations. What about skiing ? As Dr. Sanjaya Sinh has mentioned, in the higher regions of Uttar Pradesh, we have a large amount of area which is absolutely perfect for skiing. And you know that it is the best income earner out of any of the tourist activities in the world. Will the hon. Minister consider developing a special skiing complex in the upper regions of the Himalayas in Uttar Pradesh for specific skiing tourism ? Will the hon. Minister also consider developing particular areas as golf tourism areas ? For example, Malaysia has special golf tourism. A whole tourism industry is devoted to golf. Why can't we have, for example, along the Konkan belt in Maharashtra, a series of golf courses of different elevations and styles where the tourists can have proper facilities ? Will the Minister consider developing that also as a destination ?

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Also Gurgaon.

SHRI VISHVJIT P. SINGH: Yes, I suppose so. My last point is, I would reiterate what the hon. Member who preceded me, Mr. John Fernandes, had said about the air links. The tourists who come do not have much time and unless we improve our air links, it will not serve the purpose. On page 11 of the Action Plan, it has been mentioned that the entire burden has been put on charter flights and on air taxis. That is not enough. If you think that the charter flights and air taxis by themselves would augment the arrival of tourists, I am afraid it is a wishful thinking. The hon. Minister would have to consider either expanding the activities of the airlines which are currently running or the establishment of another airline to be able to

[Shri Vishvijit P. Singh]

cater to these tourists. Unless you have the proper, air links, it doesn't matter how many hotels you build up. You have got the laudable objective of doubling the hotel rooms in the next three years to 8,80,000 hotel rooms. But you do need air links. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : Before I Call Mr. Upendra, the hon. Members are still giving their names. I think we are running out of time. So I will call Mr. Upendra and one or two other Members who have already given their names. I request the Members to please cooperate.

SHRI P. UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh): By placing the Action Plan today before Parliament, the hon. Minister has met one criticism oft repeated that the Government lack a tourism policy. To that extent, I congratulate the Minister. Madam, mere placing of the Action Plan is not enough. For its success, coordination between various Ministries is necessary. Fortunately, under his control, he has already got two or three Departments connected with tourism, including Civil Aviation, the hotels etc. Thus perfect coordination is required. I do not want to elaborate many things. I just want to mention one point which the hon. Minister should take note of. My colleague just now said that a major reason for the decline of tourists for the last two years is the feeling that India is unsafe. That impression has to be removed. The tourist operators abroad had declared India as unsafe. We have to instil some confidence and the State Governments must be requested to take special steps in regard to tourists because they are harassed, they are easily identifiable and they can become the target of attacks. Therefore, the State Governments should take some steps in this regard. The second thing is about the standard of service in the hotels. The rates are very high. But the tourists do not mind that. But the standard of service must be improved. Not only the ITDC hotels but the private hotels also must be supervised. And, Madam, we should also remember that all the tourists are not rich. There

are ordinary tourists who cannot afford 5-star hotels, but who can go to 3-star or 4-star hotels. So, such hotels also must be developed and encouraged.

Then comes the question of reservations. One major complaint is that when the tourists come here with confirmed reservations, with international tickets, the Indian Airlines refuses to recognize them or sometimes they say that they do not have the accommodation. So, when they come here for internal travel, they are facing a lot of difficulties. I myself have received a number of such complaints. Some friends come here with confirmed reservations and here they find that their names are not there.

Another irritant is the time taken at the airports, in the Customs and also at other places. So, unless we streamline the services at the airports also, in the beginning of their tour itself, the foreign tourists get irritated.

The other important thing is the entertainment part. The normal complaint is that after the tourists finish their sight-seeing, etc., in the evening hours, when they want to relax, they do not have any facility. I do not want them to go to night clubs as in some other countries. But there should be a reasonable type of entertainment. Recently, I was told that one lady is organizing some small cultural programmes every day in a very small place. It is ill-lit and is hot airconditioned. But it is completely full of foreign tourists because they go in for such things. So, there should be better facilities for entertainment also.

Then, Madam, there is the beggar nuisance. Wherever the foreign tourists go, the beggars are there and they are a nuisance to them and that is also an irritant.

We in India suffer because tourism in India always meant Kashmir, Shimla and now the Golden Triangle. That is not enough. Places like Goa have become extremely popular abroad. Recently, when I went to Goa, I found a number of chartered planes coming from abroad, particularly from Germany and other countries of Europe. So, such centres should be

developed. I am saying this because in Kashmir we had a setback and immediately it affected the tourism in the entire country. That should not happen. Therefore, new tourist places have to be round and places like Goa must be developed.

I support the suggestion of Shri Vishvjit Singh about golf courses. Goa can be an ideal place for developing golf courses. Then there is Delhi also. I believe that there was earlier a proposal for golf courses. I wrote to the Minister also. But I was told that it was being entrusted to a firm who did not have much experience in this. It should be seen that the right people get the contract.

Domestic tourism is also important and the Action Plan mentions that. We should not ignore that. If you give attention to foreign tourists and ignore domestic tourists, then there is no use. So, we should develop facilities for them also. Thank you, Madam.

डॉ० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदय हमेशा नए ढंग से सोच के, जहाँ भी रहते हैं, काम करते हैं। यह जो टूरिज्म थिंक टैंक के माध्यम से इन्होंने वित्त, विदेश, वाणिज्य और गृह मंत्रालयों से विचार करके सुझाव रखे हैं टूरिज्म के विकास के बारे में, यह महत्वपूर्ण है। साथ ही, आगामी पांच वर्षों में विश्व पर्यटन पर 4 परसेंट से बढ़कर रहम एक परसेंट पर आ जाएँगे, इनका टारगेट है और होटलों में 44,400 कमरों से तीन वर्षों में दुगुना करने का प्रस्ताव है।

महोदय, मैं विस्तार में न जाकर पाइंटेड क्वेश्चन करना चाहता हूँ। टूरिज्म का बहुत बड़ा सम्बन्ध विदेशी मुद्रा से है और जिससे आप देश की अर्थव्यवस्था में सहायता करना चाहते हैं जहाज की सुविधाओं से। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में टूरिज्म को विकसित करने के लिये कितने हवाई-जहाज आप खरीदने जा रहे हैं और उनका

क्या ब्रेकअप, कौन-कौन से हवाई-जहाजों में कर रहे हैं ?

दूसरा, महोदय, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ, सचमुच में प्रकृति के बहुत से ऐसे स्थान हैं, जहाँ तक आपके मंत्रालय की दृष्टि आज तक नहीं गई है, उदाहरण के लिये बनारस में लोग जाते हैं गंगा का घाट देखने के लिये और पवित्र तीर्थ-स्थल के रूप में हरिद्वार में जाते हैं लेकिन हरिद्वार में एक भी आपका सरकारी होटल नहीं है और बद्रीनाथ-केदारनाथ जैसे स्थान हैं, हमारे नार्थ-ईस्टर्न स्टेट्स में बहुत से प्राकृतिक स्थान हैं जो वन और पर्वतों से भरे हुए हैं, उन स्थानों पर विदेशी टूरिस्टों की रुचि जागे, इसके लिये क्या योजना बनाई है ?

मैं एक सजेशन देना चाहूँगा कि चन्द्रकान्ता संतति, माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने पढ़ा होगा और उसमें जिस पर्वत का उल्लेख किया गया है, वह बनारस में है। टूरिस्ट बनारस में जाते हैं और वहाँ नौगढ़ एक स्थान है, वहाँ से करीब 60-70 किलोमीटर दूर, अगर टूरिज्म की दृष्टि से उसको डेवलप किया जाए, उसके लिये इंदिरा जी ने एक टीम भी भेजी थी वहाँ पर लेकिन फिर उसकी उपेक्षा हुई, तो मैं चाहूँगा कि मंत्री महोदय नौगढ़ के विकास के लिये, टूरिज्म केन्द्र के विकास के लिये, जो जंगल और पर्वतों से घिरा हुआ है और बहुत से वहाँ जल-प्रपात हैं, तो उसके लिये क्या कोई योजना लाएँगे और वहाँ अपनी टीम भेजेंगे?

सबसे बढ़कर के जो सबसे महत्वपूर्ण चीज़ है, वह यह है कि आपने टूरिज्म के कोर्स की बात की है और शिक्षा, मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय को उसमें आपने परामर्श, जिन मंत्रालयों का नाम लिया है, उनको नहीं दिया है और जो आपके सरकारी होटलों में भोजन मिलते हैं वे एक ही तरह के मिलते हैं जो बहुत ही गरिष्ठ और अस्वादकारी होते हैं, तो उन्हें जो भोजन की विभिन्न रुचियाँ हैं

[डा० रत्नकर पाण्डेय]

उनके अनुरूप बनाने के लिये आप क्या कर रहे हैं, यह मैं जानना चाहता हूँ ?

SHRI VENOD SHARMA (Punjab) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I compliment the Minister and I congratulate him for presenting a . . . (Interruptions) I congratulate the Minister for presenting a comprehensive plan.

As mentioned earlier, there is a steep rise in tariff on certain sectors of Vayu-doot. I agree that tourists are not going in that number to Kashmir but tourist flow has increased to Kulu, Simla and other places in Uttar Pradesh. The steep rise has got no meaning, because the rise has not been effected in any other sector, except Dharamsala, Kulu or one or two sectors where the rise of tourists is about 65 per cent. The distance from Delhi to Kulu is less than what is the distance from Delhi to Ujjain and the tariff charge from Delhi to Kulu is much more than what it is from Delhi to Ujjain. There is another thing. What will happen in the off-season ? Today of course the tourist flow is there and the people may pay the money. But what will happen after two months when the season will not be there, and nobody will be paying Rs. 2100 or Rs. 2200 from Delhi to Kulu. Any tourist coming from Bombay to Kulu has to pay almost Rs. 8500 to and fro, which is more than what he has to pay to go to Singapore or Mauritius or Malaysia. Why would a tourist like to go to Kulu if he can go with the same amount of money to a foreign country, and then also bring things and also say, I have gone to these places ? I would like to ask the hon. Minister : It is not discouraging tourists from going to those places, by increasing the tariff ?

Another thing, Madam. The tariff to Dharamsala is Rs. 2200 and tariff to Chandigarh is something like Rs. 720 and the flight goes from Delhi to Dharamsala and Chandigarh. Suppose I am travelling by that flight, I buy a ticket for Chandigarh, and while reaching Dharamsala I have my stomach pain and I say that I will get down here because I have stomach pain and I

get down at Dharamsala. Nobody can stop me. Where is the rationale ? If an honest person has to go there will he pay Rs. 2200 and a dishonest person will reach there by paying Rs. 700 only.

Madam, there are losses in Vayudoot and Indian Airlines. I am very happy and I must congratulate the Minister that a lot has been done to wipe out those losses and there is a comprehensive scheme. Of course, I agree with you. But if we want to wipe out these losses with these small amounts by increasing the fare which is not in the interest of tourism, we will not be able to accomplish the task. Thank you, Madam.

श्री सुशील बरौंगवा (हिमाचल प्रदेश) : मैडम, एक इंपोटेंट मैटर इसमें रह गया है वह मैं मेशन करना चाहता हूँ अगर आपकी इजाजत हो मैडम, आपको मालूम है कि हिमाचल प्रदेश टूरिज्म पोइंट आफ व्यू से कितना इंपोटेंट है। हमारे लिये यह प्रोब्लम होती है कि टूरिस्ट को किस तरह से संभालें। किस तरह से टूरिस्ट आकर हमारे हिमाचल के सीनिक एरियाज को डिस्ट्राय कर रहे हैं। एन्वायरमेंटल पोइंट आफ व्यू से या अदरवाईज उस चीज के बारे में एक्शन प्लान में कुछ मेशन नहीं किया गया है। मेरे कहने का मतलब यह है कि जब टूरिस्ट आते हैं, जैसे मनाली रोतांगपास में आते हैं तो किस तरह से वहाँ प्रदूषण फैलाते हैं, वह हमें मालूम है और उसके बारे में गवर्नमेंट क्या करना चाहती है ? अगर आप छोड़ दें कि स्टेट गवर्नमेंट ही एक्शन करेगी तो मेरे ख्याल में तो स्टेट गवर्नमेंट कुछ करने वाली नहीं है। इसलिये जब तक सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट से किसी किस्म का गाईड लाइंस या इस तरह की बातें न हों, तो एन्वायरमेंटल पोल्यूशन बरकरार रहेगा। इसके अलावा जो टूरिस्ट के लिये प्रोब्लम होता है, जैसे कोई प्रोपर गाइड लाइंस नहीं होती है, उसके लिये पुलिस का कोई बंदोबस्त नहीं होता। इस तरह की कई प्रोब्लम्स वे फेस करते हैं, कोई मैनेजमेंट नहीं होता है। टूरिस्ट के लिये

कुछ फैसिलिटीज, जैसे मेडिकल फैसिलिटीज, पब्लिस फैसिलिटीज या इस तरह की अन्य फैसिलिटीज न होने की वजह से टूरिस्ट को बहुत प्रोब्लम होता है। परन्तु इसके बारे में एक्शन प्लान में कोई गाइड लाइंस नहीं दी गयी है। तो मैं चाहूंगा कि मंत्री महोदय इस पर अपनी थोड़ी तबोज्जह दें और इसमें कुछ तब्दीली जरूर लायें। धन्यवाद।

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Madam, I would like to thank the hon. Members for the general support and the extremely valuable and very pertinent and very relevant—use whatever adjective you would like to—but very, very useful suggestions that the hon. Members have given. And let me say that they are absolutely on the mark. They have managed to define and identify the main thrust areas, the main problem areas, the main irritants, the main areas where there is potential for development. And I would like to congratulate them for the very erudite discussion that has taken place. And, in fact, I am very glad actually because the Demands of my Ministry were amongst those which were the victims of the guillotine and, therefore, through this presentation, there has been some discussion at least on Tourism which I value.

Madam, I had wanted to make a short and crisp reply, but so many interesting points have been made. And I do not know which ones could be ignored because none of them is really capable of being ignored. So, I will try to be brief but I cannot promise. Politicians are by nature very garrulous, and if I go on a little, may be they would bear with me.

SHRI P. UPENDRA : You are not one of them.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Let me at the outset just say that one of the problems we face in the working of the Tourism Ministry is that our country is so rich in cultural heritage, in places of scenic beauty, in the beautiful natural surroundings that exist all over the country that there

is generally and rightfully an expectation, to whichever village you may go, that this should be declared a tourist centre and a tourist spot and must be expanded and developed as one. We have severe limitations not only from the financial point of view but also from the work-force point of view and also from the constitutional point of view in a way because a lot of these things come under the States, in fact, most of these things come under the States. One of the problems is the expectation. That choice we had was to look at the whole country and spread ourselves thinly, also publicity-wise give presentation of India as a whole, but being a vast country makes the entire concept very amorphous and nebulous, and makes it difficult for the potential tourist to suddenly pick out something which attracts him to say, "yes, I want to go to this particular destination". because it becomes, infact, confusing. There are so many alternative choices. The alternative was to go step by step, pick out a certain number of limited destinations or circuits and concentrate on them both from the point of view of infrastructure development and from the point of view of marketing abroad through information revolutions and then see that they reach a certain pilch of development activity and then go on to the next lot. I personally felt that rather than spreading ourselves thinly we should try and pick up 15 circuits and destinations which should be a mixed bag so that one of them would appeal to a particular taste. So we have proceeded on that basis and are concentrating on that. But it does not mean that we stop helping and financing projects in other parts of the country. But the main concentration would be on these 15 circuits and after development there, we would then think of going to the next lot.

Sarla Maheshwariji had also raised this point that we are ignoring cultural tourism. This is not the case. This has been the traditional attraction of India, the beautiful temples, beautiful archaeological monuments, beautiful forts; all this will remain to be the kingpin or the lynchpin of the tourism package of India. But the world is changing and we have to recognise the change in the world. There is today a very

[Shri Madhavrao Scindia]

wide spectrum of activities which are attracting particular tourists. Some tourists no longer want to go and look at a temple or a monument. There are a number of tourists who would like to put on their swimming shorts and go to the beach. They even do not want to go nearer an archaeological monument. And we have to compete with other beach resorts all over the world, and we are rich in beaches. So, why should we not do it? Similarly, there are many who want to go to the hills skiing. There are many, as Vishvjitji said, who want to go and play golf-on-leisure tourism. We have to provide for that. There are a number of people who want to go somewhere where they have nothing to do, what I would like to call 'a get away from it all syndrome'. In fact, a hotel in Lakshadweep, a resort in Lakshadweep, a private organisation, is publicising itself: "Attractions and facilities given in our Resort: No television, no telephone, no post-office, no means of communication". And people are lapping it up. There is a queue of people wanting to go there, because they want to go to a place where their offices cannot bother them, where other people that they leave behind, do not create a nuisance, and where they can really go and relax with a person of their particular choice or a group of people of their particular choice. I would not like to go farther than that (Interruptions). Your laugh was pregnant with meaning but I would not elaborate on that. So we have to look at the entire diverse package and this is what we are looking at.

I will just go through the points as quickly as I can. Shri Jagdish Mathur talked about the hill areas in the 15 circuits. Unfortunately, it is a fact that tourism in Kashmir has suffered greatly, and there is no doubt about it, with slightly unsettled conditions there. There was an inflow of foreign tourists of approximately seventy thousand a year and the domestic tourists approximately three and a half lakhs. These are the rough figures. It has dwindled down to something like two or three thousand. There has been a very major impact but I do hope that we are

seeing light at the end of the tunnel and I do hope that with certain steps taken in future, the future of Kashmir will be brightened up and that one of our most beautiful spots of scenic beauty will again come fairly and squarely on our tourist map and take its rightful place on the tourist map.

I wanted to mention that in these circuits which we are concentrating on Himachal Pradesh hill areas have two; one is Manali which is incidentally being developed for skiing. Then there is Soli Nala area. We also have Kangra and Kullu-Manali is being joined to Leh. We have Solan Nala and then we also have Kangra area. So these are the three areas which we are concentrating upon in Himachal Pradesh. In U.P. also we have Rishikesh, Narendranagar, Gangotri, Badrinath which we are looking at for concentrated development. These special tourism areas that we want to set up will be something like the export-oriented zones. Just as the export-oriented zones get special facilities for exporting goods, in the same way, these specially delineated tourism areas would have special incentives built-in, from the tax angle and from various other angles, so that they would become areas where people would be encouraged to put up tourism infrastructure.

Ultimately, the success of this exercise depends on a forward-looking, enlightened policy enunciated by the Central Ministry. But its real implementation, more or less solely depends on, firstly, the State Governments, because land, water, power, transport, they all come under them, and secondly, on the private sector for what we must try and remove the hurdles, do not have the funds to set up hotels. I think it is not the job of the Government to set up hotels and travel agencies. It will only enunciate the policy and attract more and more people into this sector. That is what we are trying to do.

Then, there is a budget for public. This year, it has been increased to about Rs. 39 crores. Mathurji said that we should have good information revolution. That

is a budget for publicity. But I am afraid, though the budget has gone up from Rs. 35 to Rs. 39 crores, in real terms, it has actually gone down. This is because most of our publicity is done abroad and, with the change in the value of the rupee, in real terms, the budget has actually diminished. Therefore, we are trying to use it as effectively as possible. In addition to this, realising our limitations, we have been organising FAM tours. After all, what is Rs. 39 crores by international standards? If you buy time on television, or, in a major magazine, it goes in a jiffy. The only alternative is to organise this is what we have been doing in the last four months what are known as FAM tours. This is short for familiarisation tours'. Under this, we draw up a list of travel operators, tour operators, travel agents and travel writers, call them over here, entertain them as our guests and take them to these destinations. They go back and write reams and reams of good write-ups with lovely pictures and things about India. By this, we try and see that the publicity gap is made up. I think it is yielding results.

Shri Bagrodia talked about desert areas. One of these 15 circuits covers Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Bikaner and Barmer. Therefore, this has been taken care of. He must be knowing that I also visited the Jaisalmer Festival. We have set up camps. The first camp was at Narwar. The second one was at Jaisalmer itself. The third camp is being held at Bir, for hand gliding and para gliding. Therefore, we are looking at the desert areas, particularly, from the point of view of the international tourists, and also from the point of view of the domestic tourists. I saw a number of tourists from Bombay and Calcutta at the Jaisalmer Festival. They get attracted by the unique and unusual beauty which the desert presents in its different facets through the day.

Then, in regard to heritage hotels, we have a special scheme. Shrimati Sarala Maheswari talked about things crumbling, that we have not been able to look after our national heritage. Actually, this does not come under us. As you know, it comes under the

Archaeological Survey of India. They have, I think, limited resources. They are struggling to do as best a job as they could, within their limitations. It is not as if we are going to build a live-star hotel or a cement block on the top of a beautiful fortress or a haveli. In fact, it is quite the contrary. First of all, we are not going to build it. As I said, I do not believe Government should enter this sort of field. These are fields in which we should encourage the others to enter. In this connection, I would like to cite the experiment currently on in Neerana, where a fortress-cum-haveli, which was totally crumbling, was bought by a group of energetic entrepreneurs and converted in its same old form, in a most beautiful manner. This is only about a 100 kms. or so from Delhi. I think it has helped in preserving the heritage.

As I said, it is not as if we are going to go round spoiling beautiful fortresses and havelis. Quite the contrary. In fact, really, we will be helping the owner of a haveli or a small fort, if he wants to, in starting a tourist resort in his area, in keeping with its old character and reviving the same atmosphere which was existing in those days, there is a scheme. We have given this plan to all the hon. Members. Rather than my reading it out to them, they should themselves read it. All these relevant points exist in this plan that we have presented.

A mention was made by Shri Bagrodia about Buddhist circuits. We are very alive to this. In Uttar Pradesh and Bihar in conjunction with the Japanese Government we have got a Rs. 174 crore project which is under implementation. Of this Rs. 100 crores are coming by way of Japanese OECF investment and help. Similarly, in Ajanta and Ellora also we have a project of about Rs. 87 crores of which Rs. 71 crores are coming from the OECF - a this is really to develop those Buddhist circuits. Various facilities, like highways, roads, will be developed. It is a major plan and we are alive to the attraction of the Buddhist circuits for our friends in Japan, Korea, Far East and South East Asian countries.

[Shri Madhavrao Sciendia] Shri Bagrodia talked about golf tourism. So did Vishvjit Singhji. Again, it is an important area of great attraction to a very large set of people who want to go on holiday and relax and enjoy. There was an item which accidentally got knocked out—it is still in the plan but not elaborated here—but we have set aside this year Rs. 5 crores for assistance to particular golf courses which we will be taking in this country for development up to a required inter-national standard. In fact, we are wanting help of top international golfers whether retired or still playing, who can come and advise us on this and really bring it to international standards. Only then we would like to market it. We do not want to market something which sounds very lush and green and beautiful but when the people come to play they have a very difficult time, even walking up to that particular golf course. This disappointment should not be there. There are some very beautiful golf courses; for instance in New Delhi International Airports Authority, as Upendraji mentioned, is developing a golf course. There is a Committee under the Principal Secretary, Mr. A.N. Verma, who is looking into all these aspects. There are very beautiful golf courses. For instance in Munar I have myself played golf there. No one knows about it. It is most beautiful. You get elephants crossing the fair way when you are driving. This sort of experience, I do not think, one would get anywhere in the world. There are beautiful golf courses where clouds are scudding between two hills and you tee off on the seventh and it is an extraordinary experience. So, we are going to develop golf tourism also.

Shrimati Sarala Maheshwari talked about declaring tourism as an industry. This was a decision taken very long ago, but it is for the State Governments and not for us. In December 1991 when we had a meeting. I did tell them that those who have not declared should kindly declare it now. Quite a number of them have pondered. There are a very few State Governments which are left, which have not declared it as an industry.

About cultural tourism, I just mentioned that we are certainly not neglecting this. It is a very important part of this plan. If you go through this, you will be totally convinced that it is an integral part of this plan.

I have already answered about *havelis*, forts and palaces. Regarding developing places famous for personalities, this would become too difficult because there are so many very very respected, very very worshipped, famous personalities all over the country that it becomes difficult to start relating tourist places to each one of them, but it will be decided on a case-to-case basis. Within our limitations we will certainly try and fulfil your desire.

About low budget tourism, already I have talked about that. There was a subsidy incentive given on interest rates to five-star hotels, but we have discontinued that in this plan and increased the interest subsidy to 5 per cent, which is a very large chunk but only for one, two and three star hotels so that we could ensure low budget tourism, and middle class tourism could also be developed. There is a burgeoning middle class in this country and they want to improve their quality of life. We should try and do something for them. Similarly, in the pilgrim centres also it will have to be a cheaper type of amenity, clean, affordable and within reach. You cannot really set up an expensive network there for, what you just talked about, the NRI attraction for pilgrim tourism. We can't really set up major tourism centres there because many of these pilgrim centres, for a large part of the year, especially in the hills, remain closed and therefore they become totally economically unviable. But the wayside amenities and various other facilities like *dharmashalas*, *yatri niwases* and *yatri kas* will be there. We have just finished a Yatri Niwas for the Kumbh Mela at Ujjain, which was very, very popular.

Mr. John Fernandes talked about the Central Government also giving incentives in taxation. A number of incentives have

been declined in the Action Plan. Section 80 HH (b) was already there, and 80 I (a) is a concession the Government will give for hotels to be set up in rural areas, hill stations, pilgrim centres and specified tourist destination which will be exempt from expenditure tax and income tax for 10 years. This is a part of this new programme and I think it will go a long way to help. And there are many other subsidies, details of which are enumerated in this particular Plan.

Better air services required for Goa : We have tried to increase the frequencies to Goa but the Goa apron is limited, as you know, and we have been talking to Defence about it. We have given a plan; we are not happy about it. We want another piece of land and I hope they would come around and would be of help in that regard.

Special discounted rates are offered by some private hotels. Indian Airlines, ITDC and Air India have put together a comprehensive package this year to try and level out the tourist graph in the summer. We are putting forward a scheme called "Super Saver Scheme", which is a discounted package, on the international airline, domestic airline and the ITDC hotels. The ITC, Oberoi group and the Taj group, among others, have also joined this discounted package. So we are trying to make India even a cheaper destination to attract more and more people.

Import of cars : We are working on the import of cars. We have just got permission to import 300 air-conditioned units for travel trade on concessional duties. We have just got it from the Finance Ministry and this will be done over the next two years. It is also recognized that international quality luxury coaches or cars are essential for tourist movement because most of the existing transport units are now old; they came in during the Asian Games and since then have not been replenished. So we will be introducing some suitable scheme by which this need in tourism can be fulfilled.

Mr. Narayanasamy talked about the South being neglected. Quite to the contrary, the South has been very much concentrated upon, so much so that the arrivals at Madras in the first two weeks of February were 95 per cent more than last year and, over all, in the three months 35 per cent more tourists have gone to Madras than they did the year before. And we are trying to disperse tourism so as to save the environment rather than concentrate only on sending them to, say, the Golden Triangle and creating a tourist slump over a period of time. We have so much to offer that we want to disperse them all over the country so that there will be a limited amount at each place so that they would not be saturating and spoiling the environment.

About Agra, the State is not helping. About pilgrim centres in the South being ignored, well, he can come up with those ideas when we will certainly look into them.

He says Pondicherry is being totally neglected. This is an allegation which I don't think the Minister of State would very much appreciate, sitting in the hot seat here. But Pondicherry has been included in one of the 15 circuits. It is sheer coincidence, of course, it is a very beautiful place. It doesn't happen to be so just because the Minister is from there, just as Gwalior is also a sheer coincidence, which is also a beautiful place. The only problem is, I think we would like to have a little more cooperation from the Pondicherry Government. May be there could be a little more alacrity in responding to what we are wanting. The Minister of State himself will deal with it directly and I think he is well versed with what can be presented there.

श्री संजय सिंह जी ने तो बहुत ही निराशाजनक चित्र प्रस्तुत किया है। हम तो पूरी तरह से परास्त हो गये होते अगर हम में हिम्मत नहीं होती और अभी तक बिल्कुल मुरझाकर बैठ जाते। पर ऐसी बात नहीं है। ऐसा नहीं है कि the end of the world is near.

[Shri Madhavrao Scindia]

दुर्दिग्गम के अगर आप आंकड़े देखें तो निश्चिन्त रूप से इसमें काफी वृद्धि हुई है। दिक्कत यह है, आपने जो अपने प्रेजेंटेशन में बात कही, उसमें मुख्य बिन्दु यह उभर कर आ रहा था

The whole key is coordination.

इतनी एजेंसीज हैं कोऑर्डिनेट करने के लिये जिसमें कभी-कभी बहुत दिक्कत हो जाती है, कठिनाई हो जाती है। इसलिये मैं स्पष्ट रूप से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि समय व्यर्थ करने के लिये हमारे पास नहीं है। जो स्टेट गवर्नमेंट रचनात्मक दृष्टिकोण अपनायेंगी, उन स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स की तरफ हम विशेष ध्यान देंगे। जो स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स बार-बार हमको ठुकराती रहती हैं या रिस्पोन्ड नहीं करती हैं, प्रयास तो हम करेंगे ही लेकिन ज्यादा हमारा कंसेंट्रेशन दूसरी ओर रहेगा। उदाहरण-स्वरूप, मैंने कई बार कहा है, अब मैं क्या कहूँ कि अयोध्या में यात्री निवास के प्रस्ताव पर हम को 11 रिमाइंडर भेजने पड़े 14 मई से लेकर 30 मार्च तक और 11 रिमाइंडर का बिलकुल संतोषजनक उत्तर नहीं आया। अंत-तोगत्वा 11 महीने बाद 20 मार्च को

In the end project plans were finally presented to us. I am sure hon. Members will be happy to know that we who are really keen, genuinely keen, on facilities for pilgrims and others in Ayodhya, within 24 hours have sanctioned that scheme. We got it on the 30th of March after 11 reminders from the 14th of May, 1991, and we sanctioned it on the 31st of March. So, I would like a little more response. I would say that the Himachal Pradesh Government is responding in developing high hill areas. It is quite a good response. Madhya Pradesh could improve a little, but I would not complain about Madhya Pradesh Kerala is giving an excellent response. From Tamil Nadu also we are getting a good response. From Pondicherry, I think, we need a little better response. So, Maharashtra also, I think, requires a little more tightening up. But, I am sure that all the State Governments will certainly respond with new atmosphere that we are

trying to generate because the success of this exercise will have to depend on a team effort among the three of us, the State Governments, the Union Government and the private trade and industry. Without the participation of the three of us, I don't think that we could succeed in this exercise.

SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR REHMAN :
What about Andhra Pradesh ?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Ever since we have got your special assistance, Andhra Pradesh has also been responding greatly.

SHRI SARADA MOHANTY : What about Bengal, Bihar and Orissa ? (Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Mr. Afzal talked about the ITDC hotels losing money and the Hotel Corporation of India making money. I would not go too much in detail. But they have got 10 to 11 hotels amongst 25 ITDC hotels which are making money. But we are not satisfied, quite frankly, with the standards or the services in many hotels. Some hotels are very good, but some others need much improvement. That is why we are looking for participation of professional management up to 40 per cent so that we can bring a professional air in and also have an international marketing network available to us with a vested interest in international network in sending tourists, in filling those hotel rooms, also generating foreign exchange and also funds for refurbishing. For instance, the Janpath. Since 1955 there has been no refurbishing in that hotel. What do you expect ? However hard the staff may work, it is very difficult to be able to give really adequate service in that sort of hotels. So, we are looking at all these places.

Maheshwar Singhji has quite rightly talked about Kulu-Manali. Vayudoot is definitely facing a problem. I would like you to bear with me as far as Vayudoot is concerned. Quite frankly, if we had not taken up the challenge a few months ago, Vayudoot would have been closed by now. They are making a loss of Rs. 2.7 crores

a month, almost Rs. 30 crores a year and have accumulated a loss of Rs. 143 crores, They are owing something like, if I am not wrong, between Rs. 60 crores and Rs. 80 crores to various people, banks, Indian Airlines, Air India and all sorts of people. So, we are doing our best to take up the challenge and improve the financial condition. If after a year we feel that there are positive indications, then, we will think that the future of Vayudoot is also there. If not, we will have really to rethink. So, I would like you to bear with us. We are trying to do it through fare increases. We have not done fare increase in the North-East because late Rajiv Gandhi had established Vayudoot as a service generally for the North-East. So, we have not touched the air-fares there. We have touched the air-fares where we think the market can absorb it.

As far as Kulu-Manali is concerned and as far as Dharamshala is concerned, the Gaggal Airport is concerned and even Lakshadweep, I think, we should take a second look at it because they are important tourist destinations, and, I think, from that angle, we should try to see that, all right, Vayudoot should not make a loss, but at least try it on a breakeven level because there is another angle, the tourism angle. I will certainly be looking at these fare rates again in certain places like Kulu-Manali and Kangra and Lakshadweep. In certain special places like Kulu, Manali, Kangra and Lakshadweep

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH : Shimla.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Shimla, I am afraid, is the capital of Himachal Pradesh and I think it is affordable. I think Shimla will have to contribute to the coffers of the Vayudoot to give it a little support to bring it up to a better situation. (*Interruptions*).

श्री महेश्वर सिंह : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, एक मिनट । यह बड़ा आवश्यक है । जैसे श्री महोदय ने कहा कि आज वायुदूत घाटे में तो क्या सारा का सारा घाटा हिमाचल से पूरा करेंगे ।

श्री माधवराव सिंधिया : हिमाचल कहां । बम्बई, पूना और सब जगहों में (व्यवधान) पूरे देश भर में चेंजेज हुए हैं ।

श्री महेश्वर सिंह : क्या सन्सिडी पर विचार करेंगे ?

श्री माधवराव सिंधिया : कहां सन्सिडाइज कर सकते हैं ?

श्री महेश्वर सिंह : सरकार मदद करे ।

श्री माधवराव सिंधिया : महेश्वर सिंह जी, आप हमको सहयोग दे सकते हो । एक तो अगर स्टेट गवर्नमेंट हमको सन्सिडी के रूप में कुछ अनुदान उपलब्ध कराये और दूसरी और दूसरी बात अगर (व्यवधान) ।

श्री महेश्वर सिंह : हमारे पास इतनी आय के साधन कहां हैं ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : Mr. Maheshwar Singh, please sit down. Kindly let him finish.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Mr. Vishvjit P. Singh talked about the heritage hotels. I thank him very much for the general appreciative presentation that he made in response to our Plan. I am extremely grateful to him. They may be small gestures for the Members, but I can tell you they go a long way in encouraging us and in boosting our morale, while at the same time pointing out to areas of criticism where we should improve.

I have already answered on the NRIs contribution to the pilgrim tourism. About Special tourism areas, we are developing skiing in Solang Nala, golf in five or ten places. We have put aside Rs. 5 crores for that along with other water sports.

Air links network must have chartered flights —

श्री सुशील बरौंगपा : सोलंग नाला जहां पर आप एक स्कीम डेवलप करने जा रहे हैं वहां पर एक प्रॉब्लम आ रही है और वह यह

[श्री सुशील बरोंगपा]

है कि वहां पर एक रिडिंग टनल बनाने जा रहे हैं। वह गड़बड़ हो जाएगा। इसलिये इसमें प्रापर क्लैरीफिकेशन करना चाहिये... (व्यवधान) नहीं नहीं। टनल बन रहा है। 9 किलोमीटर का टनल बनाने जा रहे हैं। इस पर आप ध्यान देंगे।

श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह आहलुवालिया : इस सब पर बहस होने की जरूरत है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : Please, let him complete.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Madam, I would just like to say that we have in mind all the points that the hon. Members have raised, that we would be doing our best to develop tourism along the lines that they have suggested. They are the correct lines. I think if they all have a look at this Plan, they will realise that a lot of the points raised by them have already been included. It is not that these are necessarily sacrosanct. So, we will certainly take their points for our consideration. I think we will achieve (Interruptions) Sardar Sahib is wanting me to close the issue.

SHRI VISHVJIT P. SINGH : Madam, there should be a discussion on this.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : That has already taken place.

SHRI VISHVJIT P. SINGH : When did it take place ?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : Just now.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA : Let us fix up some time. Tomorrow or the day after.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : This has to go before the Business Advisory Committee.

Now hon. Members, the Minister has completed answering.

SHRI VENOD SHARMA : Kindly allow me.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : If I allow you, I will have to allow everybody else.

SHRI VENOD SHARMA : Everybody has talked about fare from Chandigarh to Kulu. This is the only place where the increase is 100 per cent. It has gone up from Rs. 700 to Rs. 1,400.

श्री राम नरेश यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदया, राजस्थान में एक गोगा मन्दिर है। सवाल यह है कि वह सांस्कृतिक विरासत और कौमी एकता का प्रतीक है। एक तरफ तो हिन्दु पुजारी बैठता है और दूसरी तरफ मुस्लिम पुजारी बैठता है। इसलिये मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसके बारे में भी क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार की कोई योजना है? दूसरा यह है कि वहां महापंडित राहुल सांकृत्यायन का शताब्दी वर्ष मनाया जाए। वे दूरिज्म से जुड़े हैं और बौद्ध धर्म से भी उनका संबंध रहा है इसलिये इस बात को ध्यान में रखते हुए क्या माननीय मंत्री जी इस राहुल सांकृत्यायन शताब्दी वर्ष के अवसर पर उनकी जन्म स्थली से जहां पर कि सारनाथ से जाते हैं सीधे बुद्ध (व्यवधान)।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : I am sure he will consider.

श्री राम नरेश यादव : इस पर ध्यान देंगे और ध्यान दे कर कुछ कार्यवाही करने का प्रयास करेंगे ताकि दूरिज्म की दिशा में कुछ हो सके (व्यवधान)।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN : I am now adjourning the House till 11 o'clock tomorrow morning.

The House then adjourned fiftyfour minutes past seven clock till eleven of the c Wednesday, the 6th May