

seen because it is a fact that the machine which we have is used for only a limited time and if it has to be used for double that time, what the implication will be in respect of the overall staff will have to be seen. But, I have noted the suggestion, Sir. If there is a possibility of doing so in the case of a very sophisticated machine, which is available at only one place and not available in every hospital and the demand for which is very heavy, it will be worthwhile to double the staff and make use of it for double the time. I would certainly look into the possibility.

MR CHAIRMAN : Question No. 166.

**Decline in Room Occupancy in the Hotels of ITDC**

\*166. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH :

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR† :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that room occupancy of number of hotels of ITDC has declined during the first six months of 1987 as compared to the first six months of 1986;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard,

(c) whether the decline of room occupancy of ITDC owned hotels this year is due to inadequate publicity abroad; and

(d) if so, what are the steps Government are contemplating to increase the room occupancy of ITDC hotels during the next six months ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of Sabha.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Bhagatram Manhar.

**Statement**

(a) and (b) The overall average percentage of room occupancy in ITDC's 25 Hotels during the first six months of 1987 was 70% as against 64% for the same period of 1986. There was marginal decline in occupancy in respect of only three hotels viz. Ashok Bangalore, Temple Bay Ashok Beach Resort, Mamallapuram and Samrat, New Delhi as per attached Annexure. (See below) .

(c) and (d) Publicity Promotion and marketing overseas is undertaken by Government of India Tourist Offices located in important tourist generating markets.

To accelerate tourism to India publicity is carried out through posters, brochures, films, audio-visuals, advertisement through TV, radio and video, in addition to print media, etc.

To achieve higher percentage of room occupancy numerous steps have been taken by the ITDC which *inter alia* included :

(i) participation in travel trade forums in overseas market,

(ii) sponsoring of travel writers and journalists from abroad and writing about India and the Ashok Group Hotels.

(iii) sponsoring of familiarisation tours of foreign travel agents to India in coordination with Air India,

(iv) signing of special rate contracts with foreign tour operators by offering incentives on volume based business to encourage group tourism,

(v) establishing personal contacts with major tour operators and travel agents for promoting traffic to India,

(vi) marketing and reservation tie-ups with International Hotel chain e.g.—

(1) Odner Hotel Representatives  
Lt. Hong Kong.

(2) Golden Tulip Worldwide Hotels,  
Holland

## Annexure

Occupancy (%) in ITDC Hotels during January 1987 to June 1987 as compared to January 1986 to June 1986.

|   | Occupancy (%)           |                         |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|
|   | January to<br>June 1987 | January to<br>June 1986 |
| 1. Ashok, New Delhi . . . . .                   | 73                      | 65                      |
| 2. Akbar, New Delhi . . . . .                   | †—                      | 62                      |
| 3. Jannath, New Delhi . . . . .                 | 84                      | 83                      |
| 4. Lodhi New Delhi . . . . .                    | 69                      | 62                      |
| 5. Ranjit, New Delhi . . . . .                  | 73                      | 57                      |
| 6. Ashok, Bangalore . . . . .                   | 45                      | 50                      |
| 7. Hassan Ashok . . . . .                       | 35                      | 32                      |
| 8. Jammu Ashok . . . . .                        | 42                      | 34                      |
| 9. Aurangabad Ashok . . . . .                   | 47                      | 40                      |
| 10. Khajuraho Ashok . . . . .                   | 28                      | 23                      |
| 11. Kovalam Ashok Beach Resort . . . . .        | 63                      | 52                      |
| 12. LVP Hotel, Udaipur . . . . .                | 70                      | 70                      |
| 13. Temple Bay Ashok Beach Resort, Mamallapuram | 52                      | 56                      |
| 14. Varanasi Ashok . . . . .                    | 44                      | 29                      |
| 15. Qutab, New Delhi . . . . .                  | 83                      | 83                      |
| 16. LMP Hotel, Mysore . . . . .                 | 54                      | 46                      |
| 17. Airport Ashok Calcutta . . . . .            | 64                      | 50                      |
| 18. Patliputra Ashok Patna . . . . .            | 48                      | 45                      |
| 19. Jaipur Ashok . . . . .                      | 67                      | 56                      |
| 20. Kalinga Ashok Bhubaneshwar . . . . .        | 32                      | 29                      |
| 21. Madurai Ashok . . . . .                     | 43                      | 38                      |
| 22. Samrat, New Delhi . . . . .                 | 76                      | 89                      |
| 23. Kamishko, New Delhi . . . . .               | 82                      | 72                      |
| 24. Ashok Yatri Niwas . . . . .                 | 85                      | 79                      |
| 25. Agia Ashok . . . . .                        | 52*                     | —                       |
| Average occupancy (%) . . . . .                 | 70                      | 64                      |

\*Commissioned w.e.f. 17-9-1986

†. Closed w.e.f. April, 1986

**SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR :**

There is no doubt that the ITDC Hotel Management and the Ministry concerned are trying to improve the room occupancy. But my first question is about the low room occupancy of the ITDC Hotels as compared to the hotels in the private sector. For example, the room occupancy of the Taj Group of Hotels is 85 to 100 per cent whereas the room occupancy of the ITDC hotels is only 70 per cent. I would, therefore, like to ask the hon. Minister the reason for this low room occupancy of the ITDC hotels as compared to the private sector hotels.

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** I cannot give a specific reason in comparison with private hotels. But I would like to inform the hon. Member that the occupancy has gone up in every hotel which is run by the ITDC. If you want, I can give the figure also. We are trying our level best to see that we give services and facilities equal to those given by private hotels and to come up to the same level as they are at. I feel, today we cannot be as good as private hotels but we are trying our level best to come up. The very fact that the occupancy has gone up slightly itself shows that we are improving. We are doing our best to give the maximum possible comfort to the people who stay in the hotels.

**SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR :** I think the low room occupancy is because of the poor service of the Management. Sir, it has been mentioned in the Statement that arrangements for marketing and reservation tie-up have been made with international hotel chains. The names of two international hotels have also been mentioned. Sir, I would like to know the names of those hotels which have made reservation tie-up with these foreign hotels and to what extent the room occupancy of the ITDC hotels has increased after the reservation tie-up.

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** I do not have the details now. Sir, I shall inform the Member later on.

**SHRI SURESH KALMADI :** Sir, the Statement given by the hon. Minister shows that one of the hotels in Delhi is closed down, that is, Akbar Hotel. I am happy

to see that all the ITDC hotels in Delhi are registering increase in occupancy. Ashok has gone up to 73 per cent and Janpath to 84 per cent. It is very good. But when the occupancy on the one hand is going up. I do not see the logic why a hotel like Akbar Hotel is closed down on the other. Why has it been converted into premises for offices of the External Affairs Ministry etc. ? Now, in view of the increased occupancy, there is justification for one more ITDC hotel. In view of the new circumstances and the higher occupancy, will the Government think in terms of again taking over of Akbar Hotel by the ITDC and shifting the offices of the External Affairs Ministry to other places ?

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** I would like to inform the hon. Member. Actually, Sir, my need for the next two months is for 25,000 rooms !... (Interruptions)... We want all tourist traffic to come which is expected in this country and I am short of rooms and the shortage is about 25,000 rooms... (Interruptions)...

**SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO :** You first take over that... (Interruptions)...

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** Sir, just this morning I was thinking about it. We are going to tie up in some manner and start renegotiating with the Ministry of External Affairs to see if they can give this hotel back... (Interruptions).

**SHRI SURESH KALMADI :** Who took the earlier decision ?... (Interruptions).

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** Not only this. I am also in favour of opening up another at least ten five-star hotels in Delhi and many more in other parts of the country.

श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवानी : उस समय इतना कहा कि गलत काम मत करो (व्यवधान) ।

श्री जगदीश टाईटलर : अगर मैं होता तो शायद न होता ।

श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवानी : सरकार में तो ये आया ।

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** I am encouraging the private hotels. I am encouraging the private hoteliers because they have the money and they have also the link-up with the chain of the top international hotels and would be able to bring lots of people to this country.

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** Yes, Mr. Radha-Krishna.

**SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHA-KRISHNA :** Sir, recently, many leading Delhi dailies mentioned that the Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation had gone to Bombay and stayed in the Oberoi Hotel there and that the room rent for the rooms occupied by him and his staff came to Rs. 6,500/- per day... (Interruptions)... It was Rs. 6,500/- per day apart from which another Rs. 1,500/- was the charge for the meals... (Interruptions)... and, Sir, Indian Airlines was made to pay, was made to make a payment of Rs. 38,000/- for two days on account of the stay there by the Minister along with his staff. If Ministers use to stay in luxurious hotels, who will then stay in the ITDC hotels? ... (Interruptions)... The facilities in the ITDC hotels are not poor, but they are adequate though they may not be luxurious. Now, Sir, I would like to know whether the Government is going to have any policy to ask the Ministers and other officials of the Government to stay in the ITDC hotels instead of in the luxurious hotels.

**SHRI N. K. P. SALVE :** Sir, is it relevant?

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** That is all right. Let me put the record straight. ... (Interruptions)... Sir, let me put the record straight. Sir, this information is most exaggerated, distorted, and is purposely being given, maybe to have an atmosphere like this, as it was given out recently about the Prime Minister's visit to Vancouver... (Interruptions)... This kind of malicious things are given out ... (Interruptions)... and you never mentioned ... (Interruptions)... You never mentioned that the next day, the Indian Airlines came out with the clear picture, not only the Indian Airlines, but also the Oberoi Hotel, saying that so much is the fee which we have paid and it is not Rs. 6,500/—I am subject to correction with regard to the figures

—and this is what they have said... (Interruptions?)

**SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA :** Why did you stay in a private hotel? That is the question. (Interruptions).

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** Sir, I would like to inform the honourable Member... (Interruptions)... that we do stay in our hotels wherever it is possible and at that particular time. Sir, we had to attend the Advisory Committee meeting in that particular hotel and that was why we were able to stay there and we paid only a nominal amount and not the amount which the honourable Member has mentioned, not that figure.

**SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHA-KRISHNA :** Sir, my question has not been answered ... (Interruptions)... Sir, my question has not been answered. I asked whether the Government is thinking of formulating a policy to ask the Ministers and officials of the Government, particularly the airlines' officials, to stay in ITDC hotels only. That was my question and that has not been answered.

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** He has already said about that.

**SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA :** Sir, will the Government give instructions that the Ministers and other officials... (Interruptions)... would be required to stay only in Government hotels and not otherwise?

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** I think this is a suggestion

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** Yes, Mr. Sukul

**SHRI P. N. SUKUL :** Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a matter of great satisfaction that there is an overall increase of six per cent as regards the occupancy rate in our hotels. Despite, you see, a marginal decline in occupancy in three hotels, it has increased by six per cent. It has also been mentioned in this statement that to attract tourist traffic, publicity is given through posters, brochures, audio-visuals, etc. Here, Sir, I would like to say that publicity is only one way of attracting the tourists. By your publicity one may come once, but not twice if you do not provide all the

comforts, conveniences and facilities which he needs. If you do not provide him with comforts, conveniences, amenities and facilities that he needs, he will not be attracted. Therefore, more should be done to provide better enjoyment, better amenities and facilities. Take Nepal, Nepal is a very small country, but the number of tourists there is much larger than in India. Why? It is because we are lacking somewhere. Not in publicity. But perhaps in overall management. Sir, I have myself stayed in at least 20 countries in five-star hotels. I know what things are there. People of other countries are used to that type—floor shows, drinking parlours, casinos. These things very much attract them. They come for enjoyment. They come for relaxation—not just come to see you. (Interruptions) will the Minister consider providing these amenities and facilities much more to the people who come—to attract tourists?

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** We are doing everything possible to see that the tourist who comes to India is comfortable and he is provided with the things he needs. Every effort is made to see that whatever new facilities, new places of interest—may be culturally or otherwise, and naturally—are there we provide to them. As far as enjoyment is concerned, it is governed by the State Government laws, and whatever the State Government laws permit we will allow.

**SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :** Sir, in India we have got the attitude of 'holier than the cow'. You entertain and attract tourists for economy purposes, not for any cow 'poojan' or something like that. They are coming here to enjoy this country. Sir, I would like to request the Minister that he should not take the plea that the States have to permit any such entertainment facilities. It is the responsibility of the ITDC and your Ministry to see that the economy of the country goes up by the tourist development. Second, apart from the question which my friend has asked, has your Ministry or the Air India some publicity machinery for tackling mischievous and malicious rumours floated about the Prime Minister about what he is spending or about his living style? This is something obnoxious. You must have some

P.R. machinery which must strike at the root.

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** Ever since these malicious reports, which are completely untrue, have been appearing in the Press, and which have been floated for a particular purpose, we are doing our level best to see...

**SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :** What have you done? Have you issued any rebuttal? Instead of issuing a rebuttal, he is just pleading. What is he pleading for? We want the rebuttal here and now. You tell us what is the figure is about the Prime Minister's expenditure. Let the Press know.

**MR CHAIRMAN :** This is not a part of the question.

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** I agree, and I appreciate the sentiments of the hon. Member. Whatever he was saying is right. We have done this and it has appeared in Bombay. Unfortunately, this was so purposely done. Now they will be exposed, because this was purposely done to embarrass the Government. Let the public know. We have done this in Bombay. I am also going to do it in Delhi through all the newspapers. (Interruptions)

**SHRI ALADI ARUNA alias V. ARUNA-CHALAM :** Mr. Chairman, Sir, Sub-Committee was constituted to examine the functioning of the ITDC hotels under the chairmanship of Mr. Banatwala. The Committee has submitted its report with certain recommendations. Firstly, will the Minister submit the recommendations of the Committee? Secondly, one of the major reasons for the ITDC hotels not improving is that even the public undertakings are not preferring our hotels. They are preferring other private hotels. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether this Government will come forward to give strict instructions to all the public undertakings to prefer only ITDC hotels in case the occupancy is available in these hotels.

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** I will do that. I will do that in regard to Air India also. Whenever they decide to travel, the first preference should be Air India.

**SHRI ALADI ARUNA alias V ARUNA-CHALAM :** What about the recommendations of the Banatwala Committee? This Ministry was under the hon. Prime Minister. A Sub-Committee was constituted under Mr Banatwala. I was a member of that Committee. That is why I am saying this. The Committee has given certain recommendations. What about a decision on those recommendations? I would like to know whether the Government has taken any action on the recommendations of the Committee

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** I cannot give any answer straightway. I will look into the recommendations of the Committee. I can assure the House that whatever practical suggestions they have given will be implemented

**SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA :** I would like to know whether, in order to improve the occupancy rate in Government hotels, the Government has a proposal to allow casinos in these hotels. I am not pleading for them. I am personally against casinos. I have got my own reservations about it. Is there any proposal to open such casinos?

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** There is no such proposal as yet. In the Consultative Committee, there was a suggestion about it. There were many suggestions for improving the inflow of tourists to Government hotels. This was also one of the suggestions. Whenever we get a feedback on it and keeping in view the hon Member's suggestions, a decision will be taken. But, so far no concrete decision relating to it has been taken.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :** It was quoted in the press. This question has not been fully answered. There was a press report that the Consultative Committee has unanimously recommended that casinos should be opened only for foreigners. Why is the Minister shy to share this information with the House?

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** There was a discussion in the Consultative Committee as to how we can attract more tourists. At that time this was one of the suggestions.

**SHRI DIPEN GHOSH :** When the Consultative Committee meeting is over,

the press brief is being given by the official side

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** No recommendation was made. It was just a suggestion. (व्यवधान) यह तो वाजपेयी जी कह रहे हैं।

**श्री सभापति :** वही तो मैं कह रहा हूँ कि अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी जी की बात तो मान लो।

**श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी :** सभापति जी, मन्त्रालय को इसका खण्डन करना चाहिए था, क्योंकि मंत्री जी कह रहे हैं कि नहीं और प्रैम में छप गया है कि निर्णय हुआ है।

**श्री सभापति :** तो फिर आप ही बताएं कि हुआ क्या है? आप मैम्बर हैं।

**श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी :** मैं मैम्बर नहीं हूँ।

**श्री सभापति :** फिर तो वान खन्म हो गई।

**श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी :** नहीं, बात तो शुरू हुई है।

**SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :** The point is that Shri Vajpayee is not entitled to ask this question because he is himself a *brahmachari*. What has he got to do with casinos? You have had no romance in your life

**श्री रजनी रंजन साह :** सभापति जी, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि इन्होंने छह प्रतिशत की वृद्धि होटल की आक्यूपेसी में, अपने प्रतिवेदन में बताई है, जो यहाँ पर सदन के समक्ष रखा है। मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि सभापति महोदय, कि यह जो आक्यूपेसी में वृद्धि हुई है, इसमें एलिमिंट आफ परमानेंट लैट-आउट आफ रुम्स भी शामिल है? यदि हाँ, तो कितने रुम दिल्ली के होटलों में परमानेंट रूप में लैट-आउट किया हुआ है, वह भी इस वृद्धि में शामिल है और अगर है तो यदि

इसे अलग कर दिया जाए तब कितने प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई है?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Sir, I do not have the figures now. I will inform the Member. Sir.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO : Mr. Chairman, Sir, according to the figures supplied by the hon. Minister, these pertain to the period from January to June. These, to my mind, are lean months, and from August there has been a very good occupancy. Will the hon. Minister tell us whether the occupancy rates of Ashok Hotel and the Kanishka have improved from the month of August till date? Secondly, Sir, the most important point is that when I was a Director of the ITDC, I took a great part in acquiring the Akbar Hotel from the NDMC. According to the terms of the contract with the NDMC, the lessee was not supposed to lease it out, whether it be to the External Affairs Ministry or to any other Ministry. If the Minister, who feels that there is a deficit of 25,000 rooms in Delhi at the present moment, has to construct a hotel of that type, right now it will cost him between 25 to 90 crores of rupees. Now that the infrastructure is already laid down and the offices of the External Affairs Ministry can be shifted elsewhere, will the Minister impress upon the Prime Minister and take up the matter at the highest level so that the Akbar Hotel is retaken by the ITDC?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Sir, first of all why I gave that information was because the question was asked for the first six months. And it is true that usually the occupancy goes up in the later part of the six months. The hon. Member has asked about the Akbar Hotel. I had already agreed with the same idea, and we will try our level best.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE : Sir, the public sector undertakings under this Ministry have really shown a tremendous improvement. Though it is not strictly relevant, Sir, I would be failing in my duty if I were not to compliment the Minister for the tremendous work the Indian Airlines have done recently.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You put your question. You will have many other chances.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE : Now I come to the question, Sir. For the first time, Sir my voice is being heard in this session. Sir, be a little kind to me, and you have been my old teacher... (Interruption)

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is occupying this Chair sometimes at least.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO : No, Sir. He is the Chairman of the Finance Commission.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE : Sir, an evaluation of the figures given by the Minister about the occupancy would reveal one thing that the ITDC hotels are doing very well, fairly well so far as 3-star and 4-star hotels are concerned, and they are not doing so well in 5-stars. Sir, I am all out for the public sector undertakings, but by the very nature of things there are such limitations implicit in running a 5-star hotel that I think, a public sector undertaking is not suited for a 5-star hotel. And Mr. Sukul was absolutely right that we do not expect people to come here for payments or to look at the faces of any one of us. They are used to a certain life style and, perhaps, a 5-star hotel run by the Government may not be able to cater to them, to be honest, to be very frank. Let there be a liberal approach so far as the private sector and the 5-star hotels are concerned. May I know from the hon. Minister whether he would think of concentrating on 3-star and 4-star and Janata hotels to ensure that not only there is better occupancy and consequent profitability but also he is able to serve a social purpose?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : That is exactly the way I look at the things also, Sir. I am also concentrating on the Yatri Nivases and the Dharamsalas and all others because we are thinking of the internal tourists. The Government the ITDC will concentrate on 2-stars, 3-stars and 4-stars. I am not asking them to touch the 5-stars at all. First of all it is very expensive to make. Secondly, we cannot give the kind of facilities for a long time what the private people can do because they have got a big chain of connections of very prominent hotels all over the world. And I am going to do exactly the way you are saying and you are feeling.

**SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE :** Sir, one thing has not yet been asked and therefore not answered. The question is if the occupancy rate is improving, is it improving because of the Indians or because of the foreigners? The second question that is relevant here is what is the break-even occupancy ratio in 3-star hotels and 4-star and 5-star hotels. I cannot assert like Mr. Salve, because the data do not indicate that, that it is the 3-star hotels where the occupancy ratio is better. I want also to know whether it is a fact, which he asserted, that 3-star hotels have a better occupancy ratio than 4-star hotels and four-star hotels have a better occupancy ratio than five-star hotels and it is improving in five-star hotels because of foreigners and not because of Indians. These are the questions that I want to ask. And, lastly, in replying to a question. I want to know why he went to the Oberoi, he said because the Advisory Committee was meeting at the Oberoi.

**SHRI N. K. P. SALVE :** It is irrelevant.

**SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE :** Why did the Advisory Committee meet at Oberoi? And, Sir, the last one is that there are other public sector hotels like the Centaur hotel. Can he enlighten us on the occupancy ratio of these public sector hotels also?

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** First of all, I would like to inform you that most of the increase in the occupancy is because of foreigners. I can give the figures...

**MR CHAIRMAN :** He has accepted it. No need to give figures.

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** There is 36 per cent increase in foreigners because there is an increase in the foreign exchange earnings also and I have got the figures on that too. So, the ITDC is improving in 5-star hotels and also in 3-star and 4-star hotels but it is still not coming up in comparison to private hotels and the reason for that I have already twice repeated.

**SHRI JAGESH DESAI :** Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to ask the Minister whether there is even a single department of the Government which has a con-

nection with the ITDC hotels. I had been to one hotel and the complaint there was that even the catering of food in the Indian Airlines and Air India is not given to the public sector but it is given to the private sector. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the food served in the ITDC hotels is not good and that is why there is not full occupancy and what are the other reasons that there is not full occupancy. Secondly, I would like to know whether there is moderate occupancy there. Then, Sir, all the foreign tourists coming from foreign countries, they are not rich people. There are many who want to stay in 3-star and 4-star hotels. Will the Government consider that in future they will construct only Yatri Nivas and 3-star and 4-star hotels and not 5-star hotels? I would also like to know why catering work is not given to ITDC hotels.

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** The percentage has gone up recently and we are doing everything possible to see that more catering is done by the Centaur catering organisation.

**श्री सभापति :** श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी ।

**श्री जगदीश टाईटलर :** सर, अटल बिहारी जी तो हो गए ।

**श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी :** नहीं, सर कहाँ हो गए?

**श्री सभापति :** आपने मान लिया तो मैंने मान लिया ।

**श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी :** सभापति महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने जो वक्तव्य रखा है, उसके अनुसार कुछ होटल बनाए हैं जिनकी आक्यूपेंसी 29 परसेंट है—कलिंग अशोक भुवनेश्वर 29 परसेंट, वाराणसी अशोक 29 परसेंट, लेकिन खुजगढ़ों में 23 परसेंट है । यह बात मेरी समझ में नहीं आयी । क्या इसका कारण यह है कि इन होटलों का प्रबंध ठीक नहीं है या इतनी कड़ी प्रतियोगिता है कि जो यात्री आते हैं, वह आपके होटलों को पसन्द नहीं करते । ये कुछ ऐसे होटलम् हैं



जिनके बारे में मंत्री जी को गहराई में देखना चाहिए ।

श्री जगदीश टाईटलर . वह भी देखेगे । मगर खुजराहों की बात में कहना चाहता हूँ कि वहाँ नाईट लैंडिंग फॅसिलिटीज नहीं है, जो हम दे रहे हैं । एक बार नाईट लैंडिंग फॅसिलिटीज हाँ गई तो हवाई जहाज शाम के समय उतरेंगे । लॉग रात को वहाँ ठहरेंगे । अभी क्या होता है कि मुवह आते हैं और चार बजे की फ्लाइट लेकर वापिस चले जाते हैं । यह सबसे बड़ा कारण है । दूसरी जगह जहाँ पर आक्यूपेंसी कम है और जहाँ पर कमियाँ हैं उनको दूर करने की पूरी कॉन्शिशन कर रहे हैं ।

SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL . Coming back to the casinos, the Minister said in his press interview that the idea of casinos has been floated and public reaction would be gauged. There are two aspects of this question, one is the necessity of opening casinos and the other aspect is that they will prevent Indians from entering and these casinos will be restricted to foreigners only. Sir, there is a great deal of confusion regarding casino concept. The foreigners who come here are interested in untravelling the mysterious and fabulous orient and not visiting the all too familiar gambling dens. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps are being taken to step up tourism-oriented publicity and to provide trouble-free and comfortable stay and journey to foreign tourists? That is part one of the question.

Part two is, opening of casinos in hotels exclusively for foreigners is likely to have an adverse effect.

MR CHAIRMAN . You are giving your opinion; put your question only.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL : . . . on the local people and may mean adoption of an alien culture to make money. This could also lead to other forms of undesirable activity and the casinos may degenerate into vice dens. How does the hon. Minister propose to enforce Indian citizens' non-entry in the casinos. . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : You cannot give your opinion.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL : . . . since the administrative and law enforcing machinery would be ill-equipped to handle cases of their illegal entry. I would also like to know from the hon. Minister . .

MR CHAIRMAN . Are you completing or not ?

SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL . I am putting the question. I would like to know whether such an action would not lead to discrimination against our own citizens in our own country.

MR. CHAIRMAN . What is the question ? You have not put a question, you are only giving your opinion.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL . I would like to know whether such an action would not lead to discrimination against our own citizens in our own country, whereby they will not be permitted to enter certain specific areas .

MR CHAIRMAN . Where is your question ? No, I cannot permit a question to go on like this. This is too much. No speech is permitted. I am not going to permit it. Next question now. Shri Kapil Verma

#### Setting up of Sanskrit University in Kerala

\*167 SHRI KAPIL VERMA . Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Ministry of Human Resource Development is establishing a Sanskrit University in Kerala;

(b) where the University is proposed to be set up and what is the progress in regard thereto, and

(c) whether the State Government is extending its cooperation in the completion of this educational project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) No, Sir.