

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Why don't you come with me, I will take you.

SHRI MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED: Sir, the occupancy in Ashok Hotel is 84 per cent now a days and in Samrat Hotel it is 74 per cent. So occupancy has increased.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Including cockroaches.

MR. CHAIRMEN: Mr. Minister what he has asked about is not occupancy, but standard of comfort, hygiene and so on.

SHRI MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED: Sir, because of improvement in maintaining and upkeeping of the hotels, the occupancy has increased... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Why don't you come with me, I will show you the condition of the Ashok Hotel or you take us.

SHRI MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED: Please come with me.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Sir, mosquitoes and cockroaches go with the opposition... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: They also come to complain against you.

SHRI G. VARADARAJ: Sir, I had the opportunity of visiting the Ashok Hotel at Bangalore as a Member of the Committee on Public Undertakings. The treatment at the hotel was excellent. But the next day when I went there it was quite opposite. Nobody bothered to look after. So this is the situation.

SHRI MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED: Lot of improvement has been done in the hotel.

SHRI G. VARADARAJ: I am talking about the last month, when I went there as a member of the Committee on Public Undertakings. The

treatment was so good that every half-an-hour they used to ring up: Are you comfortable, Sir? the third day when I went there, nobody bothered to look at me at all. That is now a normal traveller is dealt with in ITDC hotels.

Also, if you go the Bangalore airport ITDC restaurant, you will not get anything there. I would like to know what action the Ministry proposes to take to improve the facilities at Bangalore and other airport restaurants.

SHRI MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED: We are trying to improve.

SHRI LAKSHMI KANT JHA: May I suggest an advertising slogan for the Minister to consider? That is, 'walk in any time, no reservation needed'. I think that will attract more people.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is a very valuable suggestion and the hon. Minister has noted it.

The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Foreign tourist traffic

*103. **SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA:**

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the volume of foreign tourist traffic has been significantly higher this year as compared to last year;

(b) if so, what are the comparative figures for 1984, 1985 and so far in 1986, indicating the rise in percentage; and

(c) what further steps are being by Government to increase the foreign tourist traffic in future?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED): (a) to (c) During the current year there has so far been a significant upsurge in the arrival of foreign tourists. The number of foreign tourists, excluding nationals of Pakistan and Bangladesh, who visited India during 1984, 1985 and January-September, 1986 along with percentage of change are as given below:

Year	Number	%change over previous year
1984	835,503	—5.6
1985	836,908	0.2
1986 (Jan.—Oct.)	773,608	17.1*

*Compared to Corresponding period of previous year.

The steps initiated by the Government to increase foreign tourist traffic to the country include improvement in infrastructural facilities, special overseas publicity and marketing campaigns, increase in the airlines capacity, offering of facilitation for tourist charters and improvements in the airport arrival and departure facilities.

Trade agreements signed with Australia, New Zealand and Thailand

***107. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trade agreements signed during the recent tour by the Minister of Commerce alongwith the Prime Minister to Australia, New Zealand and Thailand; and

(b) what effective follow-up action is being taken by his Ministry to increase our trade with these countries?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHR' P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a)

Only one trade agreement was signed with New Zealand during the recent visit of Prime Minister to that country:

(b) In the light of the discussions held during the Prime Minister's visit to these countries, exchange of trade delegations, promotion through participation in trade fairs, inter action at official level and contacts through public sector organisations etc. are contemplated.

Delay in payment of loan by the Bombay Dyeing Company

***109. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Bank and the the Union Bank of India accepted the request for the delay in payment of principal amount of rehabilitation and other loans by the Bombay Dyeing Company;

(b) whether it is also a fact that where as Bombay Dyeing's request was granted by these banks, the delay in payment by other sick units on this account was not condoned; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) Several textile units had been sanctioned rehabilitation assistance under the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guidelines depending on the merits of each case. Repayment schedules in respect of these mills had also been recast. Bombay Dyeing and Manufacturing Company Ltd. was also sanctioned a rehabilitation term loan by a consortium of banks which was authorised by the RBI. The Company has requested for rescheduling of this loan. This request is under consideration of the concerned banks/institutions. The Company has also requested for rescheduling of certain term loans in