

(a) what steps Government have taken to attract tourists in the North-Eastern States, particularly in Manipur;

(b) whether the ITDC has dropped the plan of constructing a youth hostel at Imphal;

(c) if not, by when it is likely to be constructed; and

(d) whether there are any plans to develop Loktak Lake in Manipur to attract tourists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHUR-SHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) To provide accommodation for tourists one youth hostel in each of the seven States/Union Territories of North-Eastern region, including Manipur, has been approved and the schemes are under execution. Besides, various types of literature i.e. directories, folders, posters, and maps are produced and distributed by Department for promotion of tourist traffic. North-Eastern Region is extensively covered in this literature.

(b) and (c) The programme of constructing a youth hostel at Imphal has not been dropped. It is being financed by the Department of Tourism. A sum of Rs. 50.00 lakhs has already been released out of the total estimated cost of Rs. 26.29 lakhs. The project is likely to be completed by the end of next year.

(d) The Department has approved the scheme of introduction of water sports facilities in Loktak Lake at an estimated cost of Rs. 5.00 lakhs. The details are being worked out in collaboration with the State Government.

#### **Improvement of facilities at the Imphal Airport**

229. SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme to improve passenger facilities at the Imphal airport;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and by when work will start, under the scheme; and

(c) what are the reasons for which Vayudoot service has not been introduced between Imphal and Dimapur (Nagaland) inspite of persistent demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHUR-SHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b) The existing passenger facilities at Imphal Airport where a new arrival terminal was commissioned in July 1983, are considered adequate. There is no scheme presently under consideration to further augment the passenger facilities at the airport at present.

(c) Vayudoot service has not been introduced because Dimapur and Imphal are already connected by air by Indian Airlines flights.

#### **Programme for the re-settlement of Ex-servicemen**

230. SHRI KRISHNA NAND JOSHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn up a Rs. 1.50 crore programme for the resettlement of ex-Servicemen all over the country; and

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) Government do have a programme for the resettlement of ex-servicemen. The main thrust of the programme is to provide ex-servicemen gainful employment opportunities after they leave the Armed Forces. This is sought to be achieved by the policy of reservation of jobs under the Central Government, in—