

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) The Fourth Session of the Inter Governmental Group of Experts on Tea met at Geneva from 6th to 13th October, 1983. In addition, a meeting of Experts from Tea Exporting Countries on Minimum Export Standards was held at Geneva from 3—5 October, 1983. These meetings were held under the Integrated Programme for Commodities of UNCTAD.

(b) The tea-producing countries which attended these meetings were Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burundi, China, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Tanzania, Zaire and Zimbabwe. In addition some of the major tea importing countries also attended the meetings.

(c) While most countries reaffirmed their support for I S O Standard 3720 prescribed by the International Standardisation Organisation, the meeting on Minimum Export Standard for tea did not arrive at any final decision.

Telephone theft cases, at Akbar Hotel of I.T.D.C.

3035. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the management of the India Tourism Development Corporation has shielded the officials involved in the telephone theft case at Akbar Hotel under the garb of procedural lapses;

(b) whether any official of India Tourism Development Corporation has been authorised by the P&T Department to shift the telephone instruments from one unit/residence to another;

(c) whether it is also a fact that one of the officers involved in the theft case has been favoured/rewarded with trip to University of Leeds (UK); and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT):

(a) to (d) No, Sir. In October 1983, two ITDC officers were unable to produce requisite gate passes for taking out two telephone sets from Hotel Akbar. Realising that proper procedure was not followed, the instruments were handed over by the officers to the Durban. A Departmental inquiry was conducted and the ITDC management 'censured' the concerned officers for their lapse. Meanwhile, in response to a circular received from the BPE, ITDC forwarded applications for a short-term training course called 'Improving Efficiency training and internal consultancy' at the University of Leeds, UK. One of the applicants happens to be an officer who was also involved in the incident of October, 1983.

Inquiry against a Senior Assistant Manager (F & B), Ashoka Hotel

3036. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an enquiry was instituted in June, 1982 at the instance of Central Vigilance Commission against a Senior Assistant Manager (F&B), Ashoka Hotel and presently posted at Janpath Hotel on charges of moral turpitude;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if no enquiry was instituted against the officer, are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT):

(a) to (c) Indian Tourism Development Corporation is conducting a departmental enquiry against a Senior Assistant Manager of Ashok Hotel New Delhi on allegations of moral turpitude. Action will be taken against the concerned officer on receipt of the enquiry report in consultation with the Central Vigilance Commission.