Development of Tourism in Punjab

[RAJYA SABHA]

236. SHRI HARVENDAR SINGH HANSPAL: Wilj the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under Central Government's plans to develop tourism in Punjab, a three star hotel at Ludhiana will be built in collaboration with Punjab Tourism Development Corporation;

(b) if so, by when the construction work of this hotel is likely to be started and at what cost; and

(c) what are the other programmes and projects to be taken in hand by Central Government in the State of Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHUR-SHED ALAM KHAN); (a) and (b) No provision has been included in the Sixth Five Year Plan of the Central Department of Tourism on account of construction of a 3-star hotel at Ludhiana. However, I.T.D.C. has proposed to the Punjab Tourism Development Corporation to construct a hotel at Ludhiana as a joint venture project of the two Corporations. The reaction of the Punjab Tourism Development Corporation is awaited.

(c) For the present no other proposal is under consideration by the Central Department of Tourism or the ITDC of taking up tourism schemes in Punjab.

IDA Loan to Compensate cut in World Bank Loan

237. SHRI HARVENDAR SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the recently held talks with the President of the World Bank some assurances have been given by the latter that the cuts imposed by the World Bank in its loans to India will be made good through concessional credit from International Development Association; and

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(b) if so what is the amount expected to be secured from IDA?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHER-JEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) As a result of the shortfall in IDA's commitment authority for the fiscal year 1982, due to reduction in the contributions made by the USA and other donors to the second instalment of its Sixth Replenishment, some reduction in the amount available to India may be expected. We have not yet been formally notified of the country allocations consequent upon the shortfall in IDA funds.

Loss suffered by Banks due to Robberies/Dacoities

238. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards increasing robberies/dacoities in banks throughout the country; if so, how many banks were looted during the year 1981-82 so far; and

(b) what was the resultant loss suffered by the respective banks during the same period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a), Yes, Sir. The number of bank branches looted were forty in 1981. In 1982, till the end of January, bank branches looted were five.

(b) In 1981 the cash involved was Rs. 83.71 lakhs besides gold ornament_s valued at approximately Es. 58.5 lakhs. In respect of dacoities/ robberies in January, 1982 the cash involved was Rs. 9.21 lakhs besides gold ornament_s valued at approximately Rs. 3.58 lakhs.

The loss suffered by the banks can be determined only after all recoveries are effected including those from apprehended culprits and settlement of claims by insurance companies.