

(e) whether Government propose to revise the rates; and if so, what are the details in this regard and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) to (e) The existing rates of Daily Allowance, which are based on the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission, are applicable from 1-6-1974. A further improvement in these rates was effected from 1-2-1978 on the recommendations of a Task Force set up for simplification/rationalisation of rules, by which the higher rates of daily allowance applicable at Bombay/Calcutta were made admissible at all 'A' Class cities and Delhi/Simla rates at all 'B1' Class cities. The rates of T.A. (Road Mileage Allowance) were last revised w.e.f. 29-6-1979. The rates of T.A. and D.A. are not linked with price index as such, though the general rise in prices is borne in mind by the Government while revising these rates. Even a moderate increase in the rates of daily allowance involves heavy financial implications. Having regard to the difficult resources position, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government for upward revision of the rates of T.A. and D.A.

Abolition of octroi duty

1270. SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Committees and study teams had been appointed in connection with the abolition of octroi duty by the Central Government;

(b) if so, what are the salient points made in various reports and recommendations of the said committees and study teams; and

(c) what action has so far been taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All the Committees etc. have highlighted the negative features of octroi and generally recommended its abolition or replacement by other taxes or imposts. They have also felt that by and large octroi impedes the smooth flow of traffic, hinders the growth of commerce and gives rise to petty corruption and abuses etc.

(c) The Central Government had examined the question in 1979. It was felt that abolition of octroi lies wholly within the fiscal jurisdiction of the States. The Central Government had held discussions with the State Governments to evolve a co-ordinated policy with regard to abolition of octroi and devising of suitable measures to make good the resulting loss in revenue. By and large the local bodies were averse to giving up of this source of revenue. The State Governments also generally were not prepared to bear the burden involved in compensating the local bodies. There was also no unanimity about the measures to be adopted to recoup the losses by tapping other sources of revenue. Having regard to all relevant circumstances Central Government informed the States in August 1979 that in the context of the financial situation any sacrifice of revenue by the Centre or the States could not be contemplated however desirable abolition of octroi may be. The question of abolition of octroi was thus deferred.

Auction of property of Maharaja Yashwant Rao Holker in London

1271. SHRI BHOLA PRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that recently furniture and other items belonging to late Maharaja Yashwant Rao Holker of Indore were auctioned in London by one Sotheby (auctioners) for Rs. 8 crores;

(b) if so, whether the amount has been transferred to India by his successors; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Government have seen a number of reports appearing in different newspapers on different dates on the subject.

(b) and (c) Sotheby (auctioners) who normally treat such matters as confidential, on being contacted, have neither denied nor confirmed the fact of the sale. No information on transfer of funds to India is available at this stage.

Structure of tax system

1272. SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the Council for Economic Undertakings and Development at a meeting held at Baroda on the 4th May, 1980 had demanded complete restructuring of tax system;

(b) whether Government propose to set up any Commission for thorough examination and review of the tax structure and for suggesting modification therein; and

(c) if so, what are the composition and terms of reference of such a Commission?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(b) There is no such proposal before the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों पर पर्यटन ग्रामों की स्थापना

1273. श्री लाडली मोहन निगम : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों और प्रमुख पर्यटन मार्गों पर पर्यटक ग्रामों की स्था-

पना करने का कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस प्रयोजन के लिए 1980-81 के वर्ष हेतु कुल कितनी राशि का प्रावधान किया गया है ; और

(ग) इस योजना के अधीन दी जाने वाली सुविधाओं का व्यौरा क्या है और इस प्रयोजन के लिए किन-किन राष्ट्रीय राज मार्ग तथा पर्यटन मार्ग को चुना गया है ?

†[Setting up of tourist villages on national highways]

1273. SHRI LADLI MOHAN NIGAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up tourist villages on national highways and important tourist routes;

(b) if so, what is the total amount which has been provided for the year 1980-81 for this purpose; and

(c) what are the details of the proposed facilities to be provided under this scheme and what are the names of national highways and tourist routes which have been selected for this purpose?]

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री श्री चंद्र लाल चन्द्राकर) :
(क) जी, हां।

(ख) और (ग) केन्द्रीय पर्यटन विभाग पर्यटक ग्रामों का विकास करने के लिए माडल प्लान तैयार कर रहा है। तथापि, यह परिकल्पना की गई है कि इन ग्रामों में विभिन्न श्रेणियों का आवास उपलब्ध होगा। अन्य सुविधाओं में कैफेटेरिया, विश्राम कक्ष, पेट्रोल पम्प, एक सर्विस स्टेशन, क्षेत्र का प्रतिनिधित्व करने वाली दस्तकारी की वस्तुओं के विक्रय हेतु दुकानें, और जहाँ कहीं संभव हो वहाँ