

**Arrangements for foreign collaboration
in the hotel industry**

1522. SHRIMATI SAROJ
KHAPARDE:
SHRI NARASINGHA PRA-
SAD NANDA:
DR. V. P. DUTT:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is some dispute between him and the Prime Minister's Secretariat over the question of allowing or not allowing Indian hotels to have collaboration arrangements with foreign countries as reported in the press recently; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and what decision has been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURU-SHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Employees belonging to the Scheduled
Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the LIC**

1523. SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state..

(a) the total strength of posts in Class I, II, III and IV in the Life Insurance Corporation and the percentage of such posts held by employees belonging to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, class-wise;

(b) the total number of vacancies in the Corporation in each class of posts in 1976-77 and 1977-78 and how many of them were filled by the appointment/promotion of employees belonging to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes; and

(c) the backlog in the filling of reserved vacancies and the manner in which the Corporation proposes to wipe out the backlog?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Tea auction centres

1524. SHRI K. K. MADHAVAN:

SHRI PRASENJIT BARMAN:

SHRI JAHARLAL BANER-
JEE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that imposition of export duty and sales tax on tea has affected the tea auction centres at Calcutta and sili-guri to a great extent; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to help these tea auction Centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) Quantity of tea sold at Calcutta auctions upto mid November, 1978-79 season was estimated at 74 m. kgs. compared to 108.3 m. kgs. during the corresponding period of last season. At Siliguri auctions quantity sold upto October of the current season was estimated at 5 m. kgs. compared to 8.8 kgs. during the corresponding period of last season. As for Gauhati Centre, the corresponding figures are 17.4 and 30.1 m. kgs. respectively. At Gauhati Auctions there is no levy of State Sales Tax Export duty, however, has no direct effect on the volume of sales and is leviable on teas exported irrespective of the Auction Centre at which it is sold

(b) Levy of tax on sale or purchase of goods effected inside a State is a State subject of taxation.