

Promotion of Tourism in Sikkim

*352. SHRI LEONARD SOLOMAN
SARING;
SHRI R. NARASIMHA
REDDY;
SHRI GIAN CHAND TOTU;
SHRI NABIN CHANDRA
BURAGOHAIN;

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state whether Indian Tourism Development Corporation has any plan for promotion of Tourism in Sikkim and if so, what are the steps taken so far in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): Indian Tourism Development Corporation has no plans for the present for the development of tourism in Sikkim due mainly to constraint on resources.

Fraudulent transactions by the Vijaya Bank Limited

*353. SHRI GULABRAO PATIL;
SHRI VITHAL GADGIL;
SHRI DEVENDRA NATH
DWIVEDI;
SHRI GHAYOOR ALI
KHAN;

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of fraudulent transactions have been entered into by the Vijaya Bank Ltd.;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Reserve Bank of India has in its Inspection Report, recommended that the Chairman of the Bank should be removed; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) The Reserve Bank of India carried out an inspection of the Vijaya Bank Ltd. of the position as it stood on 30th June, 1975 and found several irregularities and undesirable features in the working of the Bank. In February 1977 Incometax Authorities have filed a number of complaints in the Court of the Judicial Magistrate, Mangalore against the Vijaya Bank Limited under Sections 277 and 278 of the Incometax Act, 1961 read with Section 200 Criminal Procedure Code.

(b) The Reserve Bank has not recommended to the Government or in its Inspection Report the removal of the Chairman of the Vijaya Bank Limited.

(c) Government have already announced in the Lok Sabha that it is necessary to go into all the facts relating to the Vijaya Bank Limited.

Consumption of Tea

*354. SHRI MAHENDRA BAHADUR SINGH;
SHRI SAWAISINGH
SISODIA;
SHRIMATI LAKSHMI
KUMARI CHUNDAWAT;

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state the estimated domestic consumption of tea in the country for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): Consumption of tea in the country during 1977-78 is expected to be about 300 million kgs.