

RAJYA SABHA

Tuesday, the 24th August, 1976, 2 Bhadra
1898 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. Chairman in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*27. {The Questioners Shri Pmkash Veer Shastri and Shri Om Parkash Tyagi were absent. For answer vide col 32 infra.]

New Tourist Complexes in Madhya Pradesh

*272. SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal under their consideration to develop some new tourist complexes on Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) The development of tourist centres in the Central Sector is determined on the basis of their existing or potential popularity with international tourists. With this end in view, the facilities for international tourists have already been created at Khajuraho, Sanchi, Bhopal and Kanha National Park. For the present, therefore, the efforts in the Central Sector will continue to be directed towards improving and augmenting the facilities at these centres.

श्री श्रीकान्त वर्मा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने जिन स्थानों का नाम लिया वे स्थान पहले ही प्रसिद्ध हैं और वहाँ पहले ही टूरिस्ट केन्द्र कायम हो चुके हैं। लेकिन जैसे बस्तर है या अमरकंटक है, ये जो तमाम जगह हैं इनमें कोई टूरिस्ट केन्द्र कायम नहीं हुआ है। जहाँ तक मेरा ख्याल है, 21 RSS/76—1

पर्यटन का यह नियम है कि जो क्षेत्र जितने ही पिछड़े हुए होते हैं वे उतने ही आकर्षण के केन्द्र होते हैं। पेरिस के लूव्र को देखने वालों से ज्यादा संख्या नैरोबी के वण्य पशुओं को देखने वालों की है। बस्तर जो कि आदिवासियों की संस्कृति का इतना बड़ा केन्द्र है उसकी उपेक्षा की गई है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या वह बस्तर को पर्यटन केन्द्र के रूप में विकसित करने के लिये कोई कदम उठाने की सोच रहे हैं ? यदि नहीं तो इसमें क्या विकल्प है ?

श्री सुरेन्द्र पाल सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने मेन सवाल के जबाब में कहा है कि मध्य प्रदेश में 4-5 जगह ऐसी हैं जहाँ खपया काफी खर्च किया गया और डवलप भी किया गया। कठिनाई हमारे सामने यह है कि जगह तो बहुत हैं उसमें बस्तर भी एक जगह हो सकती हैं और भी दूसरी जगह हो सकती हैं मगर हमारे पास इतने फंड्स नहीं हैं कि वहाँ खर्च कर सकें। इस वकत कोई ऐसा विचार हमारे सामने नहीं है जिनमें बस्तर में कोई पर्यटन केन्द्र कायम किया जाए।

श्री श्रीकान्त वर्मा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, दूसरी बात यह है कि किसी भी प्रदेश में या देश में टूरिज्म का विकास तब तक नहीं हो सकता जब तक कि रेल मार्गों का या विमानों के रास्तों का विकास ठीक ठीक न हो। यह बड़े आश्चर्य की बात है कि मध्य प्रदेश जो कि सैलानियों का इतना बड़ा केन्द्र हो सकता है लेकिन वहाँ रायपुर का हवाई अड्डा कितने ही महीनों से बंद है और रायपुर का हवाई अड्डा बंद होने से उस पूरे इलाके के जो यात्री बस्तर या अमरकंटक जा सकते थे, वे नहीं जा सकते। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या वे इस दिशा में कोई ध्यान दे रहे हैं और इस हवाई अड्डे में कोई सुधार हो रहा है या नहीं ?

श्री राज बहादुर : भोपाल के अतिरिक्त ग्वालियर में भी हमारी सेवाएँ जाती हैं। जहाँ तक रायपुर की सेवा का संबंध है, वहाँ का रन-वे जो है उसकी मजबूत करने की बहुत जरूरत है और यह काम जारी है। जैसे ही यह काम पूरा हो जायगा वहाँ सेवाएँ दुबारा जारी कर दी जायँगी।

SHRI GOVINDRAO RAMCHANDRA MHAISEKAR : Sir, the Estimates Com-mitte in its report of 1975-76 on the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation has emphatically advised the Ministry to advise the State Governments to prepare master-plans for developing tourist centres and complexes. And they have also been advised to prepare guidelines. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether such steps have been taken to avoid these controversies time and again.

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : Sir, such advice has been given to the State Governments from time to time, that in the interest of integrated development and balanced development of these places, it is necessary that they should have master-plans. And I think—I say this subject to correction—that in respect of Khajuraho, the master-plan has been prepared and the State Government is going ahead, by and large, with the master-plan.

SHRI GOVINDRAO RAMCHANDRA MHAISEKAR : I was asking whether all the States have been given guidelines,

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : Such instructions and advice are always given to all the State Governments.

SHRI M. R. KRISHNA : The tourists coming to this country are always from the same regions. I would like to know what steps the Government have taken to attract tourists from new countries like South America and Europe. I was told that there is lack of coordination between the different departments here. For instance, when the tourists come many a time they do not get even seats in the IAC planes to go to different tourist centres in the country I would like to know from the Ministry whether any study has been made from country to country to find out their interests. For instance what are the people of South America interested in ? What are the things they would like to see here ? Has any such survey been made and have any steps been taken to perfect the internal coordination ?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : Such studies are a continuous process in the Department. We always try to find out what are the special requirements of a particular country or region. As far as Europe is concerned, we already have a large number of tourists coming from there, as well as from America. In regard to South America, efforts are being made and our officers based in America often pay a visit to South America and give enough publicity about India. Unfortunately, the tourist traffic from South America has not been very substantial.

SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN : Unfortunately I have to say that this question is very familiar to us as our two Ministers sitting right in front. There seems to be some confusion about the whole policy of tourism. I would like to know what is the national policy on tourism and why particularly our two big States like U.P. and Madhya Pradesh are ignored. What does the Government propose to do for these two States to make up for the past neglect ?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : The hon. Member's question is equally familiar. So far as the policy is concerned, it is determined and laid down for us within the competing priorities of our economy. Naturally, agriculture comes first, then fertilizer, power, steel, etc. But still we are trying to mobilise as much resources as possible and as the hon. Member knows we have developed aviation for the sake of tourism and tourism for the sake of aviation. In our Plans we lay down certain schemes and projects and we try to complete them as best as we can with certain targets which are fixed. In the Fifth Plan we expect 800,000 tourists and on that basis the infra-structure facilities are built up.

SHRI ABU ABRAHAM : We have plenty of statistics about foreign tourists. I would like to have some information about the progress made in internal tourism.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : We encourage domestic tourism also as best as we can.

Essentially, according to the perimeters laid down in our Plan the States are responsible for promoting domestic tourism and providing the necessary infra-structure and facilities. We concentrate on promotion of foreign tourism. This is the division of labour between us. But we combine and cooperate to see how best we can serve the cause. It is not that the facilities created for foreign tourists are not used by domestic tourists and vice versa.

श्री जगदीश जोशी : श्रीमन्, क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि मध्य प्रदेश का निर्माण 1956 के बाद हुआ। यह उनकी जानकारी में है कि काफी बड़ा इलाका अवि-वासियों का अनएक्सप्लोरड (unexplored) है। यहाँ बहुत सी प्राचीन संस्कृतियों की जगहें हैं, जो इतिहास की पुरानी संस्कृतियाँ हैं, भरहुत संस्कृति हैं, उसके पहले की प्राग्-ऐतिहासिक संस्कृति की अलग-अलग जगहें मध्य प्रदेश में हैं, जिनके विकास की तरफ कोई भी ध्यान नहीं दिया गया। रावणमाडा, सरगोजा और सीधी के सोमावर्ती इलाकों में टूरिस्ट काम्प्लेक्स नहीं है। इसी तरह प्रकृति जन्य सुविधाओं, चार-पांच जल प्रपात आदि की शृंखलाएँ यहाँ हैं। तो इन सबको मिला कर प्राकृतिक, प्राग्-ऐतिहासिक और ऐति-हासिक इन तीनों को मिलाकर—यहाँ पर एक बड़ा प्रोजेक्ट बन सकता है। इसमें राष्ट्रीय और अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय दोनों प्रकार के यात्रियों को हम समान रूप से आकर्षित कर सकते हैं।

विदेशी और देशी दोनों मुद्राएँ अर्जित कर सकते हैं। इसमें सरकार के लिए पैसे का प्रश्न कहाँ आता है।

मेरा दूसरा सवाल यह होगा कि टूरिस्ट विभाग केवल खर्च का विभाग नहीं है, वह तो आमदनी लेने का विभाग है, विदेशी मुद्रा लाने का विभाग है, लोगों को काम देने का विभाग है, तो इस विभाग के लिए पैसा मांग सकेंगे या पैसा पैदा कर सकेंगे ? इसके लिए बौड या सार्टिफिकेट जारी करने में टूरिस्ट डेवलपमेंट कारपोरेशन

को क्या दिक्कत है ? बिजली के लिए धरम बौड हो सकता है, और चीजों के विकास के लिए बौड जारी किए जा सकते हैं तो टूरिस्ट डेवलपमेंट कारपोरेशन इस प्रकार के टूरिस्ट काम्प्लेक्स, खास तौर पर पिछड़े इलाकों में विकास के लिए पैसा इकट्ठा करने में, क्यों नहीं बौड या डिवेन्चर्स छाप सकता है, उसके सामने क्या अड़चन है और क्यों डेवलपमेंट के वास्ते पैसे का रोना रोया जाता है ?

श्री सुरेन्द्र पाल सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस सवाल का जबाब तो आ भी चुका है। मैंने पहले भी यह माना है कि ये ही जगहें नहीं और भी बहुत सी जगहें हैं मध्य प्रदेश में जिनका डेवलपमेंट जरूरी है; हम चाहते हैं उनका डेवलपमेंट हो जाए, लेकिन असली कठिनाई रुपए पैसे की है जैसा माननीय सदस्य कह रहे हैं। अब यह तो संभव नहीं कि हर एक डिपार्टमेंट लोन या बौड लेकर इकट्ठा करें....

श्री जगदीश जोशी : उससे पैसा मिलेगा।

श्री सुरेन्द्र पाल सिंह :बाकी जो रुपया मिलता है हमें प्लानिंग कमीशन से और फाइनेंस डिपार्टमेंट से, वह भी कट हो गया है, यह हमारी कठिनाई है।

SHRI N. K. BHATT : Sir, Madhya Pradesh is a State which is, as has been pointed out by some of the honourable Members, a place full of centres of historical and cultural interest. I would like to draw the attention of the honourable Minister to three important places in Madhya Pradesh and they are Ujjain, Mandav and Manda-saur. These are the places which are really very important from the historical point of view and they have enough potentialities for development of tourism, already thousands of people come to these places every year. So, I would like to know what facilities are being provided to the tourists so far as these three places are concerned. I do understand that there are financial limitations. But places like these must be developed not only from the point of view of ourism, bu also from the point of

view of the historical importance these places have.

श्री सुरेन्द्र पाल सिंह: अध्यक्ष महोदय, 3 जगहों का नाम माननीय सदस्य ने लिया। जहाँ तक मांडू का सवाल है, वहाँ तो कुछ सुविधाएँ पैदा की गई हैं। हमने वहाँ करीब 2 लाख रुपया खर्च किया है। बाकी और जगहें हैं वे डोमेस्टिक टूरिज्म में आती हैं, तो उनके वास्ते स्टेट गवर्नमेंट कुछ करें तो अच्छा होगा।

SHRI B. RACHAIAH : Sir, India has a variety of tourist centres, but they are at different places and they are distant from each other. The tourists who come from the foreign countries have very limited time at their disposal and they would like to visit all the places within the short time which they have and they would like to cover all the places as early as possible. Therefore, Sir, I would like to know whether the Ministry is thinking of having chartered planes, jet planes, which can go from place to place. Sir, in the South, we have got the Gole Gumbaz in Bijapur and we have got the famous Badami and we have got places where caves of historical importance are there. We have got many places of tourist interest. Now, if these foreign tourists go to these places by train or by bus, it will take a long time for these people to visit, all these places. I would like to know whether the Ministry would like to arrange for chartered planes, small planes, which can be chartered by these tourists.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : Sir, the suggestion thrown up by the honourable Member is a good and interesting suggestion and I would say that it deserves examination. In fact, we also think that if we want to promote tourism in our country, we shall have to provide more air services and we shall have to provide some sort of concessions for travelling and concessions for tourism and we shall have to have chartered planes for this purpose. But, within the strict limits of the economy which Air-India has to take care of, they can allow charters to a very limited extent for the

use of the foreign tourists and so far as charters within the country are concerned, it depends on the fleet availability of the Indian Airlines. Even so, if there are some groups which are interested in having a charter. Indian Airlines can also provide for that. But there is not much of a demand for this now.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Next question, please.

Restriction on cotton stock

*273. SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO :

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :]

SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND :

SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA;

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to fix a limit on cotton stocks for traders;

(b) whether Government have also decided to vest the Textile Commissioner with powers to check and confiscate excess stocks with traders; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Textile Commissioner has been vested with powers to issue directions to persons holding any stock of cotton or kapas regarding the maximum quantity of cotton which can be kept in their possession as also the period within which the cotton should be disposed of by such persons.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : In framing the policy, has the Government taken

fThe question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Bhupesh Gupta.