

[25th July, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

projects in Himachal Pradesh. Promotion of sustainable tourism, with emphasis on preserving the ecology is one of the salient points of Tourism policy.

Retirement age of ITDC Employees

294. SHRI GAYA SINGH:

SHRI V.V.RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

whether Government are considering a proposal to roll back retirement age from 60 to 58 years for ITDC employees;

whether it is also a fact that Government are considering a Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) for its employees; and

if the answer to part (a) and (b) be in positive, the details thereof and how many employees are expected to exit from the organisation by these two steps during the year?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per information given by ITDC, approximately, 1200 employees comprising of 200 executives and 1000 non-executives are likely to opt for Voluntary Retirement Scheme. As regards number of employees expected to exit due to rolling back retirement age, the information is not readily available and it can be estimated only on fixing up a cut off date for effecting roll back of retirement age. The Company has proposed that Roll back of retirement age should be given priority over introduction of Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

Duping of Foreign Tourists

† 295. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

whether it is a fact that incidents of cheating, molestation, beating and fraud with the foreign tourists in the country have been increased too much;

if so, the city-wise and year-wise details of such incidents during the last three years; and

what action are being taken by Government to check these incidents? †

Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.