

**Increase in Price of Newsprint**

7621. SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Newspaper Society has urged the Government not to increase the price of newsprint;

(b) if so, the main reasons put forward by them in this regard;

(c) whether Government are aware that rise in price of newsprint and consequential increase in price of newspapers would discourage people from going in for newspapers; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to curb the rise in the prices of newsprint?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The rise in prices of indigenous newsprint is likely to increase the cost of production of newspapers.

(c) The rise in the price of newspapers which depends on newsprint and many other factors, may not necessarily discourage people from going in for newspapers.

(d) The Government do not exercise any statutory control on the prices of newsprint.

**Filling up of Vacancies in Upper Management of UCO Bank**

7622. SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had directed the UCO Bank not to fill up the vacancies in the upper management;

(b) whether the Bank has complied with the above directive; and

(c) if not, the action proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

**Declining Trend in Tourism**

7623. SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT:  
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:  
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tourism industry is heading for a crisis and according to the experts views there will be considerable decline during the summer month;

(b) if so, the estimated decline in tourist traffic during the summer months and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether during the winter months the indications are that India is fast pricing itself out of the tourist market; and

(d) if so, the efforts being made by Government to improve the tourism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Effects are being made to improve tourism products, which includes upgradation of tourism infrastructure, diversification of tourist attractions, development of new travel circuits and strengthening of publicity and marketing activities.

#### Setting up of Beach Resorts

7624. SHRI JANARDHANA  
POOJARY:  
SHRI YASHWANTRAO PA-  
TIL

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently given approval for setting up of two beach resorts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any other proposals for beach resorts in other States are pending with Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which these are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Government has not given approval for setting up of 2 beach resorts. Government have only approved the foreign collaboration between Indian Hotel Company Limited (Taj Group) and Club Mediterrance of France for setting up beach resorts.

(c) to (e). 14 beach resort projects received from Governments of Goa, Kerala, Orissa and Daman & Diu Administration are pending clearance from environmental angle. This is an on-going process. Each project is evaluated from environmental angle on merits. No. fixed schedule can be given for this purpose.

#### Foreign Tourists in North and South

7625. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state the comparative figures of foreign tourists who visited North India and South India during 1987, 1988, 1989 and 1990 so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): The number of foreign tourists disembarked at various ports in North and South India are as follows:

	North India	South India
1987	458,725	127,915
1988	506,804	133,311
1989	571,185	140,836
1990 (Upto March)	172,388 (P)	39,484 (P)

(P): Provisional.