

ticals is being continuously increased and also diversified with due regard to the growing requirements of the country. This industry is listed as a priority industry for purposes of import licensing. Subject to certain conditions, the drug manufacturing units can also increase their production by 100% over and above the capacities already licensed to them with a view to enabling them to effect maximum utilization of their plant and machinery.

Decision to Institute National Awards for Tourist Industry

3484. SHRI MUHAMMED SHERIF:
SHRI M. S. SIVASAMY :

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

(a) whether Government have decided to institute Nation Awards for various segments of the tourist industry on the pattern of the awards given for promotion in some other export-oriented industries ;

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof ; and

(c) the extent to which it will promote tourism in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. In order to encourage the various segments of the tourism industry viz., hotels, restaurants, travel agents, wild life operators and tourist car operators, it has been decided to institute National Awards for the best performance in each sector. Broadly, the awards will be for the most outstanding performance in the particular field of tourism, and the significance of the contribution made to the development of tourism in India. Details are being worked out.

Special Grant to Mysore

3485. SHRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE
SHARMA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether Government have given any special grant to Mysore State ;

(b) if so, the amount thereof ; and

(c) the reasons for giving the special grant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Setting up of New Tourist Centres in the Country

3486. SHRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE
SHARMA :

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

(a) whether Government propose to set up new Tourist Centres in the country;

(b) if so, the location thereof;

(c) the number of tourists who are expected to visit the country during 1972-73 and 1973-74; and

(d) the facilities proposed to be provided to attract more tourists and foreign exchange expected to be earned during the aforesaid period ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) to (d). In addition to the winter-cum-summer resort at Gulmarg and the beach resort at Kovalam, the tourism infra-structure, including accommodation and transport facilities is being strengthened at a number of places. It is estimated that approximately 4 lakh foreign tourists will visit India in 1973 and that foreign exchange earnings from tourism will be approximately Rs. 55 crores.