

Concession (LTC) facility for Bharat Darshan to the Government officials with a view to encourage tourism.

(b) whether an extension of one and half year was granted for each of the block years 1986-89 and 1990-93; and

(c) if so, whether the period of block year 1994-97 would also be extended and continued upto June 1999 and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) As per entitlement of the Government Servants, Air/Rail fare by direct shortest route is admissible while traveling on LTC. In addition, Government servants can get their earned leave encashed for the purpose subject to certain conditions like not more than 10 days at a time and 60 days in entire career.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. The Govt. servants had sufficient time from 1994 to date to avail the LTC and there are no reasons to extend it beyond 31.12.1998.

[English]

#### **Development of Tourism in Kerala**

2264. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kerala Government has submitted a project report to the Union Government for the development of tourism in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to make a comprehensive action plan to develop tourist places in Kerala. and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Tourism has not received any project report from the State Government of Kerala. However, the Union Government has financed Rs. 1.9 crores for the preparation of a project report for the Bekal Special Tourism Area.

(c) and (d) The Development of Tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, Ministry of Tourism in consultation with the State Government has prioritised 15 projects amounting to Rs. 467.00 lakhs for Central Financial Assistance during 1998-99.

#### **Assistance Sought from NRF**

2265. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received some proposals from Gujarat for sanctioning assistance from National

Renewal Fund for recouping the State Renewal Fund towards the expenditure incurred on Voluntary Retirement Scheme of Workers of Gujarat State Textile Corporation closed down by the Government of Gujarat as per the orders of Gujarat High Court;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government received any proposal for assistance from National Renewal Fund in respect of statutory dues of workers of Private Mills under liquidation in Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) to (d) The Ministry of Industry, Department of Industrial Development has received two proposals from the Government of Gujarat as follows:

(i) Proposal of Gujarat State Textile Corporation Ltd. (GSTC) for assistance from National Renewal Fund (NRF).

(ii) Proposal of Government of Gujarat seeking NRF assistance for closed Textile Mills.

Assistant from NRF is presently available only for VRS in Central Public Sector Undertakings and for counselling, retraining of rationalised workers

#### **Coal Handling Plants**

2266. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of coal handling plants (CHPs) constructed in different collieries of ECL;

(b) the number of CHPs lying either idle or misutilised;

(c) whether the CHPs at Dharmo Main and Chinakuri Collieries had not handled the coal to their capacity;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the estimated loss suffered by these collieries as a result thereof;

(f) whether the Government have fixed any responsibility for such losses; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) There are 10 major CHPs and 38 mini CHPs in different collieries of ECL.

(b) 3 numbers of mini CHPs at Siduli, North Searsole and B.C. incline are temporarily closed for major repairs. None of the CHPs are misutilised.

(c) and (d) The CHP at Dhemomoin Colliery was fore-closed before its completion since the extraction of coal it