

New Regional Officers of GIC

2452. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the General Insurance Corporation (GIC) propose to open new Regional Offices, Divisional Offices and Branch Offices of its subsidiaries during 1998-99; and

(b) if so, the details thereof company-wise and region-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE & INSURANCE): (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARATHANAN) : (a) and (b) The General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) has reported that National Insurance Company Limited and New India Assurance Company Limited have already opened a Regional Office at Coimbatore and Nagpur respectively w.e.f. 1.4.1998. The opening of new Regional Offices, Divisional Offices and Branch Offices is a continuous process and such proposals are considered based upon the business and growth potential of the area and other parameters laid down by GIC.

Japanese Aid to Goa for Development of Tourism

2453. SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Goa seeking Japanese aid for development of tourism infrastructure in Goa; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The project has been forwarded to the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance for external funding.

Export of Float Glass

2454. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to export the float glass from India during the next bilateral meeting between India and Pakistan on the trade matters; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) Presently, there is no bilateral forum for official discussions on trade matters between India and Pakistan.

Hence, no bilateral meeting is scheduled between the two countries on trade matters. Float glass is also not included in the list of items permitted by Government of Pakistan to be imported from India.

(b) Does not arise.

Tourism in Kerala

2455. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the Government of Kerala for financial assistance for the development of tourist spots in the State; and

(b) if so, the details of the assistance extended, project wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) and (b) During 1997-98, the Union Ministry of Tourism received the following 11 projects from the Government of Kerala for financial assistance:-

1. Upgradation of Nalukettu Heritage building
2. Tourist Complex at Kumarakom
3. Yatrinivas at Nellampatty
4. Wayside amenities at Thanneer-Mukkom
5. Nehru Centenary Pavillion at Alaphuza
6. Purchase of Rice Boat
7. Flood lighting of Secretariat building
8. Signages
9. Wayside amenities at Karunagapally
10. The Great Elephant March
11. Kerala Village Festival

All the above projects were sanctioned.

[Translation]

Water Supply to Bank Note Press, Devas

2456. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal regarding supply of water to Bank Note Press, Devas is pending with the Government for clearance;

(b) if so, the date since when it is pending;

(c) whether the Union Government and Bank Note Press Devas have asked the Public Health Engineering Department of Madhya Pradesh for supply of water; and