

DEFENCE

Summary of Questions Asked

1) *Vikrant Museum :*

The issue of converting INS Vikrant into permanent War Museum was consistently followed up. The book value of Vikrant was Rs.18 crore; the same was gifted to Government of Maharashtra free of cost.

2) *Road Over Bridges :*

Defence land for development of Road Over Bridges at Gandhinagar junction, Vikhroli, widening of Golibar Road, Ghatkopar; Missiles Production Centre for Mumbai were highlighted.

LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 3868

ANSWERED ON 08.08.2002

CONSTRUCTION OF ROB IN MUMBAI

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether his Ministry has sorted out differences with the Ministry of Railways, the Government of Maharashtra and MMC regarding construction of ROB on Kandivili Railway Station in Mumbai;
- (b) if so, whether permission to construct ROB at Kandivili Railway Station has been granted;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

- (a) to (d): Government sanction was issued on 19.4.2002 for grant of provisional permission to Western Railways to carry out excavation and underground concreting on the final alignment of the ROB to be constructed on the Defence land at Kandivali (East) subject to the conditions stipulated in the said sanction letter. Formal orders for transfer of the Defence land in question is, however, pending for want of confirmation from the Mumbai Municipal Corporation to the acceptance of the conditions/decisions taken in various meetings held on the subject.

* * *

LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 861

ANSWERED ON 22.11.2001

DEFENCE LAND FOR ROB IN MUMBAI

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether construction of a Road Over Bridge (ROB) at Gandhinagar Junction, Kanjur Marg, Mumbai is being held up due to the differences between Navy and Mumbai Municipal Corporation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to resolve the issue?

ANSWER

- (a) to (c): The Municipal Corporation Mumbai has sought transfer of 3518 square metres of land. In principal, the Navy is agreeable to this transfer subject to successful, mutually acceptable negotiations.

* * *

LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 3931

ANSWERED ON 13.12.2001

CONVERSION OF INS VIKRANT INTO WAR MUSEUM

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the conversion of INS Vikrant into War Museum has been delayed since long;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the time by which the conversion work of INS Vikrant into War Museum is likely to be completed?

ANSWER

(a) to (c): The State Government of Maharashtra had evinced interest in converting 'INS Vikrant' into a maritime museum. Accordingly, it was decided to gift the ship to the State Government for conversion into a museum. However, in April, 2000, the State Government conveyed its inability to implement the scheme. As such, it was decided to dispose of the ship as 'scrap' and tenders were invited. However, in July, 2000, the State Government of Maharashtra renewed their request for conversion of the ship into a museum. As such, the process initiated for disposal of the ship as 'scrap' was kept in abeyance.

The State Government have since informed that the feasibility report and the site have been finalized. The State Government has been requested to shift the ship to an alternate berth and ensure the ship's safety.

The museum project is to be undertaken entirely by the Government of Maharashtra and is likely to take about three years to complete. No funding support by the Navy is envisaged.

LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 3879

ANSWERED ON 17.08.2000

DEFENCE LAND TO MMC MUMBAI

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether he has received any request from Mumbai Municipal Corporation, the State Government and the local MP regarding transfer of a piece of defence land for widening of Golibar Road Ghatkopar (West); and
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

ANSWER

- (a) No proposal for transfer of Defence land for widening of Golibar Road has been received either from the State Government or Mumbai Municipal Corporation. A request has, however, been received recently from Shri Kirit Somaiya, M.P. (Lok Sabha) in this regard.
- (b) Army Headquarters / Director General Defence Estates have been directed to examine the request in consultation with the State Government / Mumbai Municipal Corporation.

* * *

LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 5184

ANSWERED ON 27.04.2000

PAK ACTIVITIES ON LOC

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Pakistani forces have crossed the LoC on February 27, 2000 and attacked Indian troops at West of Naushera in Jammu and Kashmir;
- (b) if so, the number of Indian soldiers killed/injured;
- (c) whether the Indian Government have taken any action in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) Seven personnel were killed and one JCO is missing.
- (c) & (d) : Our troops have been alerted and a constant vigil is maintained.

* * *

LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 2775

ANSWERED ON 01.08.2002

PERMISSION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD OVER BRIDGE

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether his Ministry has sorted out differences with MMC and the Government of Maharashtra over the piece of land in Naval Dockyard (Civil) Colony, Kanjur Marg, Mumbai;
- (b) if so, whether permission to construct ROB at LBS Marg has been granted;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

(a) to (d): A meeting was held on 16.5.2002 between officers of Ministry of Defence and Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai. The Ministry of Defence conveyed its in principle decision to transfer 3518 Square meters of land at Naval Dockyard (Civil) Colony, Kanjur Marg, Mumbai to the Municipal Corporation, Mumbai for construction of Road Over Bridge at Lal Bahadur Shastri Marg Junction subject to transfer of Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai's land at Worli to Ministry of Defence. The valuation report of the land from Municipal Corporation, Mumbai has since been received and a final decision will be taken in consultation with officers of Mumbai Municipal Corporation.

* * *

LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 2819

ANSWERED ON 01.08.2002

RAKSHA MANTRI SAHAYATA KOSH

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether there is any separate fund available with him viz Raksha Mantri Sahayata Kosh;
- (b) the purpose of such Kosh; and
- (c) the guidelines issued by the Government to use the said fund?

ANSWER

(a) & (b): There is no fund with the Defence Minister, named 'Raksha Mantri Sahayata Kosh'. However, there is a non-public fund with Raksha Mantri called 'Raksha Mantri Discretionary Fund' (RMDF). The purpose of the fund is to provide financial assistance to ex-Servicemen and their dependents in penury and having no other source of income.

(c) The guidelines issued by Ministry of Defence on this fund are as under:

- (i) Assistance to old infirm ex-Servicemen/widows of ESM:- Rs. 1,000/- per month for two years.
- (ii) Marriage of daughters of ex-Servicemen/widows in penury:- Rs. 8,000/-
- (iii) Repairs of house for ESM/widows in penury:- Rs. 10,000/-
- (iv) Medical treatment:- Depending on the nature and gravity of ailment, subject to a maximum of Rs. 15,000/-
- (v) Grant for children education:- Rs. 100/- p.m. per child for maximum of three children up to XII standard.
- (vi) Other cases in respect of ESM/Widows in penury:- (Like natural calamities, accidental death or where Raksha Mantri/Raksha Rajya Mantri feels that the case deserves sympathetic consideration) - No single transaction to exceed Rs. 15,000/-.

* * *

LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 3923

ANSWERED ON 22.03.2001

REPORT OF GROUP OF MINISTERS ON NATIONAL SECURITY

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether a Group of Ministers was appointed to suggest some radical changes in the existing establishment by integrating service headquarters with the Defence Ministry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the said group has submitted its report to the Government;
- (d) if so, the details of recommendations made by it;
- (e) the time by which the recommendations are likely to be implemented;
- (f) the major changes proposed to be made in the three Defence Headquarters by implementing these recommendations; and
- (g) the fields where these changes are likely to take place?

ANSWER

- (a) & (b): Government constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) comprising Raksha Mantri, the External Affairs Minister and the Finance Minister on 17th April 2000 to thoroughly review the national security system in its entirety and, in particular to consider the recommendations of the Kargil Review Committee and formulate specific proposals for implementation.
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) to (g): Since the GoM's Report is yet to be accepted by the Government, it is not possible to give details.

* * *

LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 2906

ANSWERED ON 07.12.2000

TRANSFER OF DEFENCE LAND TO M.M.C. MUMBAI

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Army Headquarters/Director General Defence Estate have since examined the request regarding transfer of defence land to M.M.C. Mumbai for widening of Golibar Road, Ghatkopar (West), Mumbai;
- (b) if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for delay and the time by which it is likely to be examined?

ANSWER

- (a) to (c): The request of Mumbai Municipal Corporation (MMC) for transfer of a piece of Defence land for widening of Golibar Road has been examined. The land requested for is adjoining the Canteen Stores Department (CSD) building and is under the management of CSD.

The Canteen Stores Department, which had already handed over 17,607.40 sq.ft. of land for widening the same road to M.M.C. on 21.6.1972, has expressed its inability to transfer any more land. However, M.M.C. will be apprised of the position, after a decision in this regard is taken at the related level.

* * *

LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 2800

ANSWERED ON 01.08.2002

WIDENING GOLIBAR ROAD

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether his Ministry has accepted the request of MMC and the Government of Maharashtra to widen the Golibar Road near Sarvodaya Hospital, Ghatkopar (West) in Mumbai; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Does not arise.

* * *

TOURISM

Summary of Questions Asked

Government of India, Tourism Department, Eco-Tourism Department takes up various projects throughout India. Also supports projects undertaken by State Governments. Raising various issues connected with Mumbai, Maharashtra and getting more and more support.

1) *Nisarga Vihar, Mulund :*

Getting sanction of Rs. 45 lakh for the dream project of Nisarga Vihar, Mulund, Mumbai; getting included as eco-tourism project. The process and follow up with Tourism and Forests Ministry is on.

2) *Deccan-Odyssey Train :*

train on the basis of "Palace on Wheels" between Mumbai-Goa-Ajanta-Ellora, etc is to be started by Tourism Ministry-Railway Ministry and MTDC. Follow up to expedite and implementation. The train scheduled to start in May, 2003.

LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 1211

ANSWERED ON 26.11.2001

FUNDS FOR TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:-

- (a) the details of funds allocated to various States for development of tourist spots particularly in Rajasthan, Maharashtra, West Bengal and Jammu & Kashmir during Ninth Plan Period, State-wise and Tourist spot-wise;
- (b) the achievements made along with the expenditure involved on each of the projects during the above period, State-wise;
- (c) the details of tourism projects submitted by the States and approved by the Union Government during 2000 and 2001 along with the funds allocated for them, State-wise;
- (d) the details of ongoing tourism projects sponsored by the Union Government, State-wise; and
- (e) the time by which each of the projects is likely to be completed indicating the estimated expenditure thereon?

ANSWER

- (a) and (b) : The Department of Tourism, Government of India provides Central financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations every year in consultation with them for various projects for development of infrastructure and promotion of tourism in the country. During the first four years of 9th Plan 1359 projects were sanctioned involving an amount of Rs.309.43 crores and an amount of Rs.116.84 crores has been released. A statement showing number of projects sanctioned, amount released State-wise including Rajasthan, Maharashtra, West Bengal, J&K during first four years of 9th Plan is annexed.
- (c) The Department of Tourism, Government of India has sanctioned 338 projects involving an amount of Rs.77.10 crores during 2000-2001 as per the details given in the annexure.
- (d) and (e) : As per the information available, the projects sanctioned during 2000-2001 are at various stages of completion. The projects should be completed by the State Govts./UT Administrations within stipulated period of 30 months as per the guidelines of Central financial assistance.

* * *

LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 5658

ANSWERED ON 30.08.2001

HERITAGE HOTELS

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

- (a) the number of Heritage hotels established in the country, State-wise/location-wise;
- (b) whether there is any proposal to set up more such hotels in the country, particularly in Maharashtra; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise/location-wise?

ANSWER

- (a) The Department of Tourism has classified 61 hotels in the country under Heritage category upto August, 2001. A list of Heritage Hotels State/Location-wise is placed at Annexure .
- (b) The Department of Tourism also approves Heritage Hotels at project stage as per the guidelines laid down in this respect. So far there are 10 approved Heritage hotel projects. No hotel project in Maharashtra has come up for approval to this Department so far.
- (c) The 10 Heritage hotel projects approved by the Department of Tourism are, at Mehrauli – New Delhi; Diu – Daman & Diu; Mt. Abu – Rajasthan; Dausa – Rajasthan; Anandpur Sahib – Punjab; Srinagar – Jammu & Kashmir; Haridwar – Uttranchal Pradesh; Solan – Himachal Pradesh; Jodhpur and Jaisalmer – Rajasthan.

ANNEXURE IN RESPECT OF PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 5658
ANSWERED ON 30.8.2001 REGARDING HERITAGE HOTELS

STATEWISE/LOCATIONWISE LIST OF HERITAGE HOTELS IN THE COUNTRY

RAJASTHAN

1. The Ramgarh Lodge, Ramgarh, Jaipur
2. Raj Mahal Palace Hotel, Jaipur
3. Hotel Lalgarh Palace, Bikaner
4. Samode Haveli, Jaipur
5. Sardar Samand Palace, Sardar Samand
6. Neemrana Fort, Neemrana
7. Ajit Bhawan Palace, Jodhpur
8. Fateh Prakash Palace, Udaipur
9. Karni Bhawan, Jodhpur
10. Raj Palace, Jaipur
11. Karni Bhawan Palace, Bikaner
12. Bhanwar Niwas Palace, Bikaner
13. Shikarbadi, Udaipur

14. Gajner Palace, Bikaner
15. Laxmi Vilas Palace, Udaipur
16. Hotel Connaught House, Mt. Abu
17. Sawai Madhopur Lodge, Sawai Madhopur
18. Cama Rajputana Club Resort, Mt. Abu
19. Narain Niwas Palace, Jaipur
20. Castle Mandawa, Mandawa
21. Hotel Bissau Palace, Jaipur
22. Pushkar Palace, Pushkar
23. Laxmi Vilas Palace, Bharatpur
24. Deogarh Mahal Fort, Deogarh
25. Devigarh, Delwara,
26. Hotel Raj Mahal, Bhindar
27. Khimsar Fort, Khimsar
28. Balsamand Palace, Jodhpur
29. Ranbanka Palace, Jodhpur
30. Shiv Niwas Palace Udaipur
31. Laxmi Niwas Palace, Bikaner
32. Palace Hotel, Mt. Abu
33. Samode Palace, Samode

GUJARAT

34. Neelam Bagh Palace Bhavnagar
35. Balram Palace Resort, Village Chitrasoni
36. Utelia House, Ahmedabad
37. River Side Palace, Gondal

KARNATAKA

38. Lalitha Mahal Palace, Mysore

MADHYA PRADESH

39. Jehan Numa Palace Hotel, Bhopal
40. Usha Kiran Palace, Gwalior
41. Jhira Bagh Palace, Dhar
42. Noor-Us-Sabha Palace, Bhopal

HIMACHAL PRADESH

- 43. The Clarks, Shimla
- 44. Taragarh Palace, Taragarh
- 45. Nalagarh Palace, Nalagarh
- 46. The Judges Court, Paragpur

KERALA

- 47. Lake Palace, Thekkedy
- 48. Fort Heritage Hotel, Cochin
- 49. Naduluveetil Resort, Naduluveetil
- 50. Somatheeram Ayurvedic Beach Resort,

Somatheeram

- 51. Kayaloram Lake Resort, Thekkedy
- 52. Coconut Lagoon, Alleppy
- 53. Malabar House Residency, Cochin

WEST BENGAL

- 54. Ivanhoe Hotel Darjeeling
- 55. Himalayan Hotel, Darjeeling
- 56. Windamere Hotel, Darjeeling

UTTAR PRADESH

- 57. Fair Havens Holiday Home, Nanital
- 58. Chevron Resemount, Ranikhet

TAMIL NADU

- 59. Taj Garden Retreat, Madurai
- 60. Savoy Hotel, Octamand

GOA

- 61. Panjim Inn, Goa

* * *

LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 4330

ANSWERED ON 20.04.2000

**HOTEL INDUSTRY IN THE FIELD OF
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:-

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any agreement have been signed with any foreign company in this regard;
- (d) if so; the details thereof; and
- (e) the quantum and type of advantage is likely to be accrued to hotel industry after entering into this field ?

ANSWER

(a), (b), (c) & (d) : The hotel industry is mostly a private sector activity and as such the individual hotels are constantly making efforts to upgrade their facilities by entering into agreements with major global players for using Information Technology. However, hotels are generally not involved in Media entertainment sector.

The activities include, providing hotel information on the internet, online Reservations through Internet, development and creation of Web Sites and computerised Central Reservation Systems etc. which would result in increasing the efficiency in marketing the hotels and thus increase the occupancy of the hotels.

* * *

LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 3959

ANSWERED ON 16.12.2002

PROPOSAL FOR NISARGA VIHAR IN MUMBAI

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to start eco-tourism in Nisarga Vihar, Mumbai; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

- (a) & (b): Based on the proposal received from the Government of Maharashtra the Project Nisarga Vihar, Mumbai was sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism for Rs.45.00 lakhs in March 1999. The Government of Maharashtra informed that the land for the Project was not available in the National Park area and hence the Project was dropped . The State Government of Maharashtra has requested the Central Government to reallocate the sanctioned funds for Beautification of Mumbai city.

* * *

LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 3169

ANSWERED ON 10.12.2001

TOURISM PROJECTS

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:-

- (a) the number of Tourism Projects submitted by North Eastern States, to the Union Government during the last three years;
- (b) the details of projects out of the above sanctioned by the Union Government so far, State-wise; and
- (c) the amount sanctioned to each project during the said period?

ANSWER

- (a) to (c) : The Department of Tourism, Government of India in consultation with the State Governments of North Eastern States sanctioned 280 projects amounting to Rs.60.93 crores and released an amount of Rs.22.24 crores during the last three years i.e. 1998-99 to 2000-2001. A Statement showing the details is annexed.

* * *

LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 182

ANSWERED ON 19.11.2001

VISA ON ARRIVAL SCHEME

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government have cleared the scheme of visa-on-arrival for the tourists;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the countries likely to be covered thereunder; and
- (d) the procedure and other modalities likely to be followed in this regard?

ANSWER

(a), (b), (c) and (d) : In order to facilitate and increase tourist arrivals the proposal of Visa-on-Arrival has been taken up by Ministry of Tourism with Ministry of Home Affairs. It has been suggested that it should be introduced in respect of few selected countries.

Those countries are :-

Belgium	Netherlands
Luxembourg	Sweden
Finland	Norway
Japan	Germany
Argentina	Chile
Australia	New Zealand
Brazil	Mexico
France	Spain

The procedure and modalities are still being worked out in consultation with other Ministries.

* * *