



Department of Tourism

At a Glance

Functions

The Tourism Department is responsible for promotion of domestic and international tourism, development of tourism related infrastructure, licensing of tour operators/ travel agents. It is also entrusted with the supervision of two agencies: Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation (DTTDC) and Delhi Institute of Hotel Management and Catering Technology (DIHMCT).

Findings

- *Dilli Haat* is one of the most successful projects of DTTDC, earning a profit of Rs 1.6 crore in 2002.
- DTTDC runs 38 country liquor and 93 Indian made foreign liquor (IMFL) vends in Delhi. Of the 1,035 employees in the Corporation, 550 work in these vends. In 2002-03, it made a profit of Rs 2.5 crore from country liquor sales (this amount was spent on building flyovers) and Rs 6 crore from IMFL sales.

Reforms

- The Department of Tourism should not be in the business of selling liquor. This should be left to private players.
- When the government does not have money to provide drinking water, it should not venture into running a hotel management institute. Such vocational education can be safely left to the private sector.
- Festivals and fairs should be organised by trade and community associations.
- The activities of the Department are largely a form of corporate welfare: taxpayers' money is used to subsidise businesses. The 'profit' earned by selling liquor is also ultimately taxpayers' money.