

Question No: 103

Question: Northern Territory Tourist Industry Debts

Date: 12/05/92

Member: Mr EDE

To: CHIEF MINISTER

1. When did the Chief Minister become aware of the size of the debts accumulated by the government's support for Northern Territory tourism infrastructure.
2. Was the Chief Minister aware of the size of the debts at the time the Estimates Review Committee was first established.
3. Was the Chief Minister aware of the size of the debts at the time the Estimates Review Committee's decisions were announced.

ANSWER

1. I presume that the honourable member's questions relate to Yulara and the Sheraton Darwin and Sheraton Alice Springs hotels. As a member of the Legislative Assembly, I have been aware of the debt associated with them since commencement. The financial position of the projects has been reported extensively, including the Treasurer's Annual Financial Statements, in the Annual Reports of the Northern Territory Development Corporation and its successor, the Territory Loans Management Corporation.

Their situation was extensively analysed by the Public Accounts Committee whose first report 'Report into Contingent and Actual Liabilities of the Northern Territory' was published in 1987. In 1991, the committee published an update to that report.

2. and 3.

See answer to question 1 above.