

(c) whether the matter was taken up by the Government of India with the British Government and if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. K. NARAYANAN): (a) Government have no information on this matter. In accordance with the procedure relating to visit of sportsmen abroad, Government have not received any request for clearance of the visit of the sportsman in question.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Demonetisation of one rupee note

270. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one rupee currency notes will shortly be demonetised by the Central Government;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether arrangements have been made for circulation of adequate number of one rupee coins in place of one rupee currency notes; and

(d) what will be the additional expenditure involved in substituting one rupee currency notes by one rupee coins?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (d) Notes of lower denomination like Re. 1/- and Rs. 2/- circulate much faster and have comparatively a shorter life period. It is, therefore, necessary to coinise these denominations. However, having regard to the continuing public preference for these notes, complete replacement of these notes by coins within a short period would not be desirable. Efforts are, therefore, being made not only to augment coin production facilities but also increase the printing of one rupee and two rupee notes.

Declaration of Tourism as an Industry

271. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have since taken any final decision to declare tourism as an industry;

(b) if not, by when a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter;

(c) what special efforts are being made by Government to promote tourism in the country; and

(d) what are the places which are likely to be developed as tourist centres in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MUFTI MOHD. SYED): (a) and (b) In July 1984, the National Development Council recommended that Tourism should be accorded the status of an industry. Accordingly, the State Governments were requested to declare Tourism as an industry. Some of the State Governments have already declared Tourism Hotels as industry and other State Governments have again been requested to declare Tourism Hotels as industry.

(c) Several steps are being taken to promote Tourism in the country, which include provision of tourism infrastructure at important tourist centres, promotion of domestic tourism through special campaigns, improvement in the quality of surface transport, development of wildlife Tourism, promotion of charters, emphasis on direct consumer advertising abroad and production of improved publicity material, participation in food festivals, travel Seminars and exhibitions in tourist generating countries.

(d) Development of tourist centres is taken up in consultation with State Governments concerned. During 1985-86, development projects were sanctioned for Pakhal Lake, Leepakshi, Nagarajuna Sagar and Rishikonda. During the Seventh Five Year Plan, more centres will be taken up for development in consultation with the State Government.