

[25th July. 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

Committee on Birth Centenary of Bhagwan Mahavir

289. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA.

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

whether the formation of a Committee to celebrate 2600 Birth Centenary of Bhagwan Mahavir is under consideration of Government;

by when such Committee is likely to be formed;

what are the plans of the Ministry to celebrate this occasion;

whether any proposal from Jain Community and Jain Institutions has been received by the Ministry to celebrate the occasion; and

whether Jain philosophy and traditions will be kept in view while framing the programmes to celebrate this event?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI .ANANTH KUMAR):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The matter regarding constitution of a National Committee is under consideration of the government.

(c) to (e) All the related aspects would be considered by the National Committee after it is set up.

Business tie-up between ITDC and APTTDC

290. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

whether it is a fact that the Andhra Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation has entered into a reciprocal business tie-up with the India Tourism Development Corporation;

if so, what are the details of business tie-up; and

in what manner the Andhra Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation is likely to be benefited with that business tie-up?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) to (c) The Andhra Pradesh Travel & Tourism Development Corporation Limited (APTTDC), Hyderabad invited applications for appointment of authorised ticket booking agents at Chennai and Bangalore for sale of tickets in the tourist buses being operated by APTTDC. In response,