

Value-Added Tax (VAT) system with a single rate is introduced, there would be no need for multiple duty neutralisation schemes. Under the VAT system, it would be possible to rebate all indirect taxes paid by the exporters on the inputs as well as the final products both at the Central and State level. The introduction of national VAT would usher in an era of simple, transparent and automated tax rebates on exports resulting in reduction in transaction time and cost.

Revamping of ITDC Duty Free Shops

4356. SHRIGHULAMNABIAZAD:

DR. T. SUBBARAMIREDDY:

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

(a) whether the India Tourism Development Corporation is revamping its duty-free retail business at Delhi International Airport and is set to launch an exclusive wine comer and perfume and cosmetic boutique;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals that are being worked out;

(c) whether any concrete steps in this regard have been taken;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when it is likely to come under operation?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN):

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. In order to boost up sales and profitability by exploiting the full potential of fast selling items, it has been decided to revamp the ITDC Duty Free Outlet in the first instance at Indira Gandhi International Airport at Delhi. The works on setting up an exclusive Wine Comer in the main shop and a separate Perfume & Cosmetic Boutique in the departure lounge are in progress.

(e) The exclusive Wine Comer and Perfume and Cosmetic Boutique are scheduled to be operational by the end of May 2002.

Propagation of Tourism

† 4357. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite various efforts, Government have failed to make the historical cities of the country attractive and provide proper facilities and in their propagation;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.