

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) The following guidelines/procedures have been approved by the Government in March, 1991 for issue of commemorative coins/currency notes with the portraits of eminent persons/national leaders :

Guidelines

- (i) The honour should normally be restricted to Indian national/citizens. A foreigner can be considered in exceptional cases if his/her contribution to India/humanity at large has been phenomenal.
- (ii) The honour should be restricted to persons of national importance/fame, whose activities, influence and contribution should have transcended the barriers of partisan politics/region/community/language.
- (iii) The honour need not be confined to men/women in public affairs. It could and should be bestowed on individuals who have attained excellence/recognition in other areas of activity such as science, literature, arts including performing arts etc. as well as to individuals who have made intellectual contribution of an exceptional order.
- (iv) The individual to be honoured should have made contribution of lasting and durable value. A test of such durability should normally be the observance of the anniversary/birth centenary of the individuals as a national occasion.
- (v) The honour should be conferred posthumously only.
- (vi) The decision should not be biased by purely political/religious/regional/linguistic etc. considerations.
- (vii) There should normally be no more than two such commemorative coins in a five year period although this should not be interpreted as a minimum requirement.

Procedures

After examining the proposal in the light of above guidelines by this Ministry, a final decision in each individual case would be taken by the Finance Minister in consultation with the Prime Minister.

(b) The only currency note issued after independence carrying a portrait were those with the portraits of Mahatma Gandhi issued in

1969 and again in 1987. However, following commemorative coins with the portraits of eminent persons/national leaders have been issued since independence till now:

S. No.	Name of the Personality	Year of Issue
1.	Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru	1964 and 1988
2.	Mahatma Gandhi	1969
3.	Smt. Indira Gandhi	1985
4.	Baba Saheb Bhim Rao Ambedkar	1991
5.	Shri Rajiv Gandhi	1992

[Translation]

Committee on SEBs

4774. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHRY: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Committee has been constituted to make the State Electricity Boards more efficient and viable;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has started its deliberations; and

(c) if so, the time by which the Committee is likely to give its recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) The National Development Council has set up a Committee to review the factors which have contributed to the technical and managerial inefficiencies of the power utilities in the States leading to increased costs and inefficiencies in the supply of electricity; to review the electricity tariff structure in the States and recommend a set of national norms; to review the institutional and financial structure of the State power utilities; and recommend necessary changes including, inter-alia, the need to delink distribution from generation, and also to suggest measures necessary for suitably orienting the State power utilities towards promoting investments from the private sector.

(b) Yes, Sir. The first meeting of the Committee was held on 7-8-1993.

(c) The Committee is required to finalise its report by early October, 1993.

[English]

Production of Silk in Karnataka

4775. SHRI C. P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of silk has been doubled in Karnataka during the year 1992-93 as compared to the production of silk during the year 1988-89;

(b) if so, the details thereof;