

have selected areas to set up joint ventures. Australia has proposed to import computer software, rubber producing, specially carpets, bicycle, automobile components, computer-aided tools, bulldozers and we have proposed to import mining equipment, food processing machinery, meat and chicken processing machinery, brick-making machinery. I have already told you about areas such as synthetic fibres, computer software, mining equipment, ship-building, machine tools. There is little about agriculture in it.

SHRI SUBHASH YADAV: Mr. speaker, Sir, we have had discussions in regard to farmers a number of times in the House that the farmers should get remunerative price of their produce but we have not been able to provide them such price. I would like to know whether by importing synthetic fibre, the production of farmers would not fall and whether the farmers will be able to get reasonable price of their produce? In this regard I would like to know whether the Government will discuss the issue of setting up of agro based industries in the meeting likely to be held with other countries in future?

SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI: This question specifically relates to Australia. As regards economic issues, I have told that 'synthetic fibre' has been discussed. This is not that we will not take up this. We have broad-lined the areas to see as to which are the items for which efforts can be made but while finalising the things, we should act carefully.

[English]

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Apart from the joint ventures which were enumerated by the Minister, may I know whether in this Council any counter trade proposals in respect to other products had been discussed. and if so, is mutton tallow one of such products which they wanted us to import. If that is so, has the Government agreed to it? In view of the fact that there is a lot of opposition to the import of mutton tallow from Australia and other countries, will the

Government see that such a counter trade proposal is not accepted from any country?

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI: There was no such proposal.

Development of Shravanabelagola as Tourist Centre

*783. **SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER:** Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to develop Shravanabelagola in Karnataka as a tourist place;

(b) if so, the details of facilities proposed to be provided there; and

(c) whether it is proposed to introduce Vayudoot service to attract foreign tourists?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SYED): (a) and (b). The Ministry of Tourism has not received any proposal from the State Government for the development of Shravanabelagola as a tourist place.

(c) At present, Vayudoot does not have any plan to introduce air services to Shravanabelagola.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER: I am very much disappointed. Shravanabelagola is a thick forest area and a beautiful place. I do not know whether the hon. Minister has seen the place or not. I would request all the hon. Members to visit that place; it is worth seeing. The statue of Lord Gomatesh-wara carved in a single stone with a height of 57 feet was constructed here in the year 183 A.D. It is still fresh and full of life. The Central Government should not have waited for any proposal from the State Government. I thought the Ministry is competent enough, and particularly under your leadership, the Ministry would suo moto see that steps are taken to develop that place. It is a place of pilgrimage for the Jains all over the country. Every twelve years the Mahamastakabhisheka, the sacred head anointing ceremony is held here and

thousands of devotees come from all over the country. Will the Minister kindly take steps to see that this picturesque and beautiful place is developed in all respects. Particularly, what is lacking is accommodation. I would like to know what steps you are going to take without waiting for the proposal from the State Government to develop this place. Will the Minister kindly take suo moto initiative and see that the area is developed?

MR. SPEAKER: I would have put it more bluntly. How dare the Minister disappoint you in this respect?

MUFTI MOHD. SYED: It is a fact that this is a place of pilgrimage and a historical place. Unfortunately, while submitting their proposals and schemes for the establishment of some accommodation and other facilities, the State Government have not included this place. I would request the State Government to survey the place and submit their proposals.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER: This particular place attracts foreign tourists very much. Very nearby you have got the famous archaeological places at Belur and Halebid. Will the Minister speak to the Civil Aviation authorities and see that Vayudoot services are introduced to Belur, Halebid and Shravanabelagola. We would be able to earn a lot of foreign exchange. There is already infrastructure there. Kindly take steps to see that Vayudoot services are introduced at the earliest.

MUFTI MOHD. SYED: As I said earlier, there are no facilities for the stay of tourists or pilgrims there. We had enquired from the Civil Aviation Ministry and Vayudoot is not planning to have any services for this place. As far as the development of this place is concerned, Government of Karnataka in consultation with the Department of Tourism has included it as a tourist destination. I assure the hon. member that we will write to the Chief Minister and the State Government also to prepare a scheme for the development of this place.

SHRI D.N. REDDY: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the number of foreign tourists coming to our country in the last one year and the foreign exchange we earned thereby have gone down considerably in the last one year. If so, what are the reasons for it? And what are the steps that the Government are going to take to improve the situation?

MUFTI MOHD. SYED: I do not know how the hon. member is misinformed. The foreign exchange earnings have increased and these have been estimated at about Rs. 1800 crores during 1986-87.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to ask whether it is not true that when a demand is made to develop a particular place as a tourist spot, the Central Government shifts the responsibility on the State Government and when this demand is made to the State Government, it shifts the responsibility on the Central Government? Have you laid down any norms as to what should be the characteristics of a particular place so as to develop it as a tourist place?

MR. SPEAKER: These are already evolved.

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Whenever such question is raised, we receive the same reply every time that if the State Government fulfills the requirement we shall take up that work. There are so many important places and if we do not develop them, they will disappear. Therefore, the hon. Minister should not avoid the issue. There is a 57 ft high statue at Shravanabelagala.

MR. SPEAKER: That he has told. He also knows it.

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: There are a number of places which should be developed by the Central Government itself.

[*English*]

MUFTI MOHD. SYED: It is a fact that there are a number of places, especially in Karnataka, which can be developed as tourist destination points. If the hon. member wants to know, in Karnataka alone there are a number of schemes which are under execution. These are done as a joint venture by the Central and State Governments. We do not want to shift the blame to the State Government. But as far as this place of pilgrimage is concerned, the State Government has not submitted any definite proposal. I assure the hon. member that we will write to the Chief Minister of Karnataka. I know that this is a place which is important both from historical and pilgrimage points of view and many people visit it. I assure the hon. member again that as far as this place of pilgrimage is concerned, we will definitely get the proposal and consider it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are aware that there has been a link between Karnataka and Rajasthan for centuries because Mirza Ismail of Karnataka made a great contribution in the establishment of Jaipur. And as such when a reference to Karnataka is being made, I would like to submit something about Rajasthan also. There are two cities, Jhunjhunu and Sikar, in Rajasthan which have a number of religious places. In Jhunjhunu Salasar, Khatu, Shamji, Luhagarh and Sati mata, which are centres of pilgrimage since the time of Pandavas, are the religious places. Would you include them in the list or not?

MUFTI MOHD. SYED : We will consider it.

MR. SPEAKER: He will consider it favourably.

[*English*]

SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the importance of tourism and the amount of foreign exchange

the tourism earns and also the tourism helps in integration by providing travel to the domestic tourists, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, whether the Government proposes to have a Central scheme or plan for development of tourism in this country?

MUFTI MOHD. SYED: Sir, we have a number of Central schemes.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: He has said that he would trust. This has reminded me of a couplet:

"Aaj etbar kiya hota to khushi se mar ne gaye hote"

[*English*]

Next. Question Q. No. 784. Shri K. Kunjambu; Q. No. 785 Shri A.J.V.B. Maheswara Rao: Not present; Dr. Vehkatesh: absent; Q. No. 786 Shri Satyendra Narayan Sinha: Not present; Q. No. 787, Shri Prakash Chandra: Not present. Q. No. 788, Prof. Ram Krishna More; Not present. It is a 'sixer now'! Q. No. 789 Shrimati Prabhawati Gupta.

SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA: Q. No. 789

MR. SPEAKER: Oh, thank God, she broke the monotony.

Dowry Complaints

*789. SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of dowry complaints received during the year 1986 in Delhi;

(b) the details of action taken by Police on these complaints; and

(c) the number of persons punished during the period and details of the punishment awarded?