

(c) Keeping in view the need to augment forest cover and productivity, efforts continue to bring more area under trees both inside and outside notified forest areas. The afforestation efforts are being stepped up during the seventh Five Year Plan. The National Wastelands Development Board has been set up with the object of bringing 5 million hectares of land every year under fuelwood and fodder plantations and to develop a people's movement therefor.

[English]

Construction of Hotel at Trivandrum Airport

1368. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal either with Hotel Corporation of India Limited or with India Tourism Development Corporation to construct any hotel at Trivandrum Airport during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;

(c) whether any agency other than the two mentioned above is interested in constructing a hotel at Trivandrum Airport; and

(d) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) and (b). The Hotel Corporation of India Limited and India Tourism Development Corporation have no proposal to construct a Hotel at Trivandrum Airport during the Seventh Plan period due to fund constraints.

(c) No approval for constructing a hotel at Trivandrum Airport has been granted to any other agency by the Department of Tourism.

(d) Does not arise.

Decentralised District Planning by 2000 AD.

1369. SHRI BANWARI LAL

PUROHIT : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether a working group has recommended to the States a three phased programme to achieve decentralised district planning by 2000 AD; and

(b) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Report of the Working Group on District Planning constituted by the Planning Commission (May 1984) has recommended such a programme.

(b) The Working Group on District Planning has recommended a stagewise, sequential approach to achieve decentralised planning at the district level. It has proposed three transitional phases for this purpose. The first stage will be one of Initiation, when organisational systems for identifying and formulating district sector schemes will be strengthened. In the second stage, a limited decentralisation is proposed. Here, specified sectors of activity, as for example, target group planning, agriculture and allied activities and MNP will be the focus of district plans. At this stage, it is envisaged to delegate extensive financial and administrative powers to the district machinery. In the final stage of decentralisation, it is envisaged that wide-ranging administrative and financial decision making will devolve upon the district. The Working Group anticipates that all States in the country would reach the final stage by the year 2000 AD.

Adventure Tourism and Expedition in the Country

1370. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken for the promotion of Adventure tourism and expedition in the country;

(b) the schemes under implementation for this purpose;

(c) whether there is a greater need for the promotion of Adventure tourism and expedition;