

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:776

ANSWERED ON:23.11.2000

2600TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF LORD MAHAVIRA. .

NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA;RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH

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

- (a) whether the Government have decided to celebrate 2600th Birth Anniversary of Tirthankara Lord Mahavira;
- (b) if so, the composition of National Implementation Committee formed in this regard;
- (c) the details of programmes/schemes formulated for celebration of his Birth Anniversary, development of his birth place, place of attainment of salvation by the Committee;
- (d) whether the Government have received representations from various organisations disagreeing with the constitution of the National Committee in its present form;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR)

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A National Committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister. The National Committee includes Governor, Union Ministers, Chief Ministers of 9 States, eminent members of the Jain community and leaders of other religions. An implementation Committee has also been set up with 9 members under the Chairmanship of Minister of Tourism and Culture. These committees would chalk out, plan and monitor the activities connected with the celebration.

(d), (e) & (f). There have been suggestions for nominating some more members on the National Committee. The National Committee has powers to co-opt members.