

completed and the work on the first floor is in progress. Flood-lighting of Chittaurgarh Fort has also been sanctioned.

[English]

Joint Venture Companies by Indian Banks with International Merchant Banks

*286. SHRI K.S.RAO:
SHRI BRAHM DUTT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to permit Indian Banks to float joint venture companies with leading international merchant banks;

(b) if so, whether a number of public sector banks have informally sounded the Reserve Bank of India and his Ministry for permission for setting up such subsidiaries;

(c) the objectives for setting up of such subsidiaries and the advantages India would have by such joint ventures;

(d) whether there would be substantial savings in foreign exchange thereby; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) There is no proposal at present to permit Indian banks to set up joint venture companies in India with leading International Merchant Banks.

(b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it had received a proposal from a nationalised bank to set up a financial subsidiary in association with foreign banks. The proposal was examined by the RBI and was rejected.

(c), (d) and (e). Do not arise.

Loans Advanced by S.B.I.

287. SHRI JANARDHANA
POOJARY:-
SHRIYASHWANTRAOPATIL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether credit camps have staged a comeback in the form of big buy camps organised by the State Bank of India (SBI);

(b) if so, the norms adopted by the S.B.I. in granting loans under the above scheme;

(c) whether other nationalised banks also propose to give such loans; and

(d) if so, the number of camps likely to be organised?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (d). As per reports available, the State Bank of India has introduced their own Big Buy Scheme in 1988. It is a loan Scheme to enable the individuals to purchase consumer durables. The loan amount is restricted to 12 times the net monthly income subject to a minimum of Rs. 5000/- and a maximum of Rs. 1 lakh. The interest charge is 16.5 per cent per annum and the loan is repayable in equated monthly instalments which may extend up to 60 months.

Tourism Potential in Garhwal Region of U.P.

*288. SHRI C.M. NAGI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of tremendous tourism potential of Garhwal Region in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the steps taken to tap tourist potential of Garhwal during the last three

years;

(c) the expenditure incurred on tourism development in the region during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise; and

(d) the future plans in this regard including the places, if any, identified for development as tourist spots?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). State Governments are primarily responsible to tap tourist potential of various destinations. However, based on specific proposals received from them, the Department of Tourism provides financial assistance within available resources to develop infrastructure.

For the development of Tourism in the Garhwal Region, the Department has released funds for the following schemes during the last three years:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

<i>Name of the Projects/Scheme</i>	<i>Amount Sanctioned</i>	<i>Released during the last three years</i>	<i>Total amount released during the 7th Plan</i>
1. Cottages & restaurant at Auli	20.90	5.00	5.00
2. Fibre Glass Huts for Garhwal Region	33.75	12.00	12.00
3. Trekking equipment for Garhwal Region	11.86	8.00	8.00

In order to further tap the tourism potential of Garhwal Region the Government has promoted river-rafting and winter sports in the area. The Ministry of Tourism has also organised an International Yoga Festival at Rishikesh in February 1990, which is likely to become a regular feature.

(d) The development of tourism is a continuous process. However, the Ministry of Tourism extends financial assistance to States/Union Territories for strengthening of tourist infrastructure on specific proposals based on their merits, availability of funds and inter-se-priorities.

Evaluation of SEPUP and SEEUY

2841. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any evaluation has been made of the two major schemes started for facilitating self-employment of the urban poor through institutional finance with an element of subsidy viz. the Self Employment Programme for Urban Poor (SEPUP) and the Self Employment Programme for Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY)