

[13 March, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

required to give purchase preference to the Public Sector Enterprises while placing supply orders or awarding contracts;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years;

(c) how many Ministries/Departments did not adhere to the DPE's order and due to this how many PSUs become sick; and

(d) what action has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to, (d) The information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

Demands of Public Sector Employees

1899. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the specific demands of the public sector employees who plan to go on strike in case their demands are not met; and

(b) what are the details of the efforts made so far to avoid the strike by the employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) The chief concern of the public sector employees relate to the policy of Government in regard to privatisation and disinvestment, closure of sick PSUs, non payment of wages, guidelines regarding periodicity of wage revision, trade union rights and labour laws. Government have constituted a Group of Ministers (GOM) to examine and recommend upon relevant issues.

Programme on DD-5 Tamil TV Channel

1900. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken to make DD-5 (Podhigai TV) Tamil Channel 24 hours service;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a lot of response to this channel and commercials are giving good revenue to Doordarshan; and