

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

(d) and (e) The report of the Export Group covers other enterprises besides BOGL and is under consideration of the Government for a consolidated decision.

Grant of Autonomy to PSUs

3132. SHRI ANANTA SETHI : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Public Sector Undertakings granted autonomy status as on date;

(b) whether some of these PSUs had the problem of cost and time over runs in implementation of the projects under them;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether these projects were sanctioned before autonomy was granted to these PSUs; and

(e) if so, the present status of these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (e) All public sector enterprises have the required autonomy as on date to take commercial decisions within specified parameters and to duly implement projects as scheduled. Grant of autonomy is progressive and continuous. Project implementation is not impaired by lack of autonomy. There have been instances of time and cost overruns in implementing projects. Such details in respect of projects costing more than Rs. 100 crores is available in Section-II of chapter 2 of Public Enterprises Survey 1998-99, Vol. I, which was laid in the Rajya Sabha on 15th March, 2000.

Planning to Digitise Doordarshan Transmission

3133. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan is planning to digitize its transmission;

(b) is so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Hyderabad DD has also been selected for the purpose; and

(d) if so, when it is going to be digitised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) Through satellite uplinking, Doordarshan already transmits programmes in digital mode in respect of the following 5 channels—DD-I, DD-II, DD News, DD Sports and DD India. However, in terrestrial mode, Doordarshan has planned digital transmission along with analog signals on experimental basis, from Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai Kendras during 2000-2001.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Banning Entry of Foreign Media

3134. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are planning to move any broadcasting Bill;

(b) whether the ban on entry of foreign media is going to stay; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above is affirmative, how the domestic media industry would be saved from onslaught of foreign media ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (c) The Government proposes to bring before the Parliament a comprehensive legislation which will, inter-alia, provide for regulatory mechanism for various aspects of broadcasting. However, the exact details are yet to be finalized and no time frame can be indicated for the same as yet.

Hindi Typewriters Under Various Departments

†3135. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.