

Telugu Programmes on Website and Internet

590. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Telugu speaking people of U.S., Canada, Australia, New Zealand are asking for Telugu programmes of poetry, music, drama, talks and short stories; and

(b) if so, whether Government will take steps to put select items in Telugu on Website and Internet to be operated from All India Radio, Hyderabad station to benefit Telugu listeners in all parts of the world?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All India Radio has its own website on Internet which can be accessed at <http://www.allindiaradio.com>. The programme fare includes music, drama, talks, short stories, poetry in different languages, including Telugu. These programmes are updated regularly based on the request from Internet listeners all over the world.

Demand for Telugu Programmes from AIR

591. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a constant demand from the Telugu speaking people of South Africa and Mauritius for Telugu programmes from All India Radio; and

(b) if so, whether Government would initiate measures to cater to the needs of Telugu speaking people of these two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) No such request has been received by

Prasar Bharati (All India Radio). However, All India Radio has its own website in the internet which can be accessed at <http://www.allindiaradio.com>. Different language programme including some select items of Telugu are available in the 24 hour live internet service, updated from time to time, as per requests of internet listners.

Percentage of illiteracy among the Tribals

†592. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that percentage of illiteracy among some tribes is more than 75 per cent;

(b) if so, the details of such tribes with their names and habitats; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to make these tribes literate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) Tribe-wise illiteracy figures are not available in the Department of Education and Department of Tribes Affairs. State-wise information regarding districts, which are having 75 per cent and above illiteracy among the Scheduled Tribes as per 1991 census, are enclosed as statement (*See below*)

(c) The main strategy of the Government to increase literacy rate among the tribes is the implementation of Total Literacy Campaign in tribal habitats. The Central assistance of the literacy campaign in the tribal areas is 4/5th against the 2/3rd for other areas. Other steps like establishment of Hostels, Ashram-Schools, Educational Complexes, Book Banks and Coaching Classes, provision of scholarship and freeships, reservation of seats in various Educational institutions are being taken in order to improve the literacy rate among the tribals.

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.