

expenditure, etc, It will be the endeavour of Government to achieve the target of fiscal deficit of 5% of GDP together with stability in prices.

Popular Doordarshan Serial Telecast weekly Triweekly

368. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHJKUMAR SAM-
BHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A.
PARMAR:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the popular Doordarshan serials telecast weekly, triweekly or more often on Doordarshan, during 1995 and 1996;

(b) for how long each of them was or is being telecast and the profits or losses earned in respect of each of them by Government; and

(c) the reasons for the losses incurred in respect of each?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CM-IBRAHIM): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Mechanism for Assessing the Requirements of Condoms and Oral Contraceptives

369. SHRI MD. SALIM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total requirement of condoms and oral contraceptives for the eligible couples in the country and the mechanism adopted to assess the same;

(b) the details of production of the condoms and oral contraceptives and distribution of the same made through various schemes and programmes;

(c) whether Government failed to involve unemployed youth to undertake door-to-door campaign for birth control and sale of condoms with adequate commission; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQ-BAL SHERVANI): (a) and (b) The distribution of condoms and oral pills reported by the States under the free distribution scheme in 1995-% is 878.94 million pieces and 416.5 lakh cycles respectively. The sale of condoms and oral pills reported under social marketing scheme is 162.92 million pieces and 146.80 lakh cycles respectively.

The requirement is assessed on the basis of last year's use balance stock available and projected demand for next year.

The combined installed capacity of all the six manufactures of condoms is 2513 million pieces per annum. In case of oral contraceptive pills, the capacity of the 5 manufacturers supplying pills is 150 million cycles per annum.

(c) and (d) Under the Social Marketing Scheme, the NGOs and distributing companies could employ unemployed youth for sale of condoms and pills at subsidised prices.

Setting, up of AIR Relay Stations at Sompeta, Kakinada and Nellore to help Fishermen

370. SHRI SOLIPETA
RAMACHANDRA REDDY:
SHRIMATI RENUKA
CHOWDHURY:
DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up three relay stations of AIR at Sompe-ta, Kakinada and Nellore to cover the

shadow regions beyond Orissa, Ananra Pradesh border to apprise fisherman of weather bulletins in time;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what other steps are proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The coastal areas of the Orissa and Andhra Pradesh including Sompeta, Kakinada and Nellore fall within the coverage zone of the High Power Transmitters at Cuttack, Vijaywada and Visakhapatnam and FM Transmitters at Puri and Berhampur in Orissa, which cater to the needs of the listeners, including fishermen, by broadcast of weather bulletins and warnings about cyclonic storm etc., round the clock.

Steps Taken for Birth Control

371. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present birth rate in our country, how many children are born every day;

(b) what steps are being taken to control the birth rate;

(c) which community is cooperating more to the birth control measures; and

(d) what is the amount spent for birth control?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQ-BAL SHERVANI): (a) According to the latest available Sample Registration System estimates, the birth rate in the country is 28.3 (provisional) per thousand population for 1995. Based on this rate and the estimated midyear population of 96, the number of children born per day works out to 72,300.

(b) Measures taken to control birth rate among others are:—

(i) A system of decentralised participatory planning from the Primary Health Centre Level with emphasis on improvement in the quality of services and client satisfaction.

(ii) Under the Community Award Scheme, a village in each district (with more than 500 population) will be given an Award of Rs. 2 lakh for lowering Birth Rate and Infant & Child Mortality Rates.

(iii) Pulse Polio and School health check up through massive social mobilisation, beside routine immunisation, to improve (Jhair) survival and promote child health.

(c) The Family Welfare Programme is being promoted in voluntary basis with cafeteria approach where the client needs are met by providing quality of services.

(d) An allocation of Rs. 1550,00 Crores has been made for implementing the Family Welfare Programme during the year 1996-97.

Gold Smugglers using Liberalised Gold Import Scheme for Smuggling

372. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the liberalised gold import scheme introduced by Government in 1992 has helped the smugglers to bring gold using NRIs returning from gulf countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof stating the modus operandi of the gold smugglers taking advantage of the scheme;

(c) whether Government have made any in-depth review of the gold import scheme in the light of its actual working; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the measures contemplated by Government in the matter?