

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) All the districts of Gujarat are, wholly or partially, covered by the terrestrial TV service. However about 34.5 per cent area of the State remains uncovered.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) With a view to further strengthen terrestrial TV coverage, 22 more TV transmitters are under implementation/envisaged to be set up, subject to the availability of adequate resources and other infrastructural facilities for the purpose. The details are annexed as Statement. (See below) On commissioning of these transmitters, coverage is expected to be available to about 89.7 per cent area and 94 per cent population of the State.

Statement

TV transmitters under implementation/envisaged to be set up in the State of Gujarat

(I) High Power Transmitters

1. Bhuj
2. Surat
3. Vadodara
4. Palitana

(II) Low Power Transmitters

1. Khambhat
2. Morvi
3. Dharangadhara
4. Nakhtarana
5. Rapar
6. Mangrol (Junagadh distt.)
7. Ider
8. Mahuva
9. Dessa
10. Palitana
11. Ragula
12. Sangeli/Santrampur
13. Khambhalia
14. Amod
15. Mangrol (Surat Distt.)
16. Jhagadia

(III) Very Low Power Transmitters

1. Netrang
2. Devgadhi-Baria

Film industry on war path

2151. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to newswires captioned "Film Industry on War Path" and "Film Industry threaten stir" which appeared in Hindu and "The Hindustan Times" respectively dated July 16, 1993; and

(b) if so, the details of the observations made therein and reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) Government have seen the news items. The film industry has raised the following three main points:

- (1) Abolition of entertainment tax;
- (2) Increase in the royalty rates for feature films telecast; and
- (3) Streamlining the procedure for selection of feature films for telecast.

The position regarding these is as follows:

(1) entertainment tax is a State subject and it is primarily for the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to consider this. However, on a request made by the film Federation of India, the State Governments and Union Territory Administrators have been requested to consider the abolition of Entertainment Tax.

(2) the royalty rates for telecast of Hindi and regional language feature films in the National Network of Doordarshan have been revised upwards on 8.6.93.

(3) the film industry was asked to nominate 8 members on the selection committee for films for Doordarshan. The film industry did not avail of this opportunity.