

vidual borrowers against the security of shares. This ceiling, however, does not apply to loans against shares to market makers.

New Telecom Policy

*708. **SHRI N. E. BALARAM:**
SHRI CHATURANAN
MISHRA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any guidelines have been formulated for implementation of the new Telecom Policy of Government; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) A Committee has been set up within the Department of Telecommunications to suggest guidelines for implementation of National Telecom Policy. The Report of the Committee is awaited.

Strike of Telecom Workers

*709. **SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH:**
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH
MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the one hour strike recently in each working shift by the telecom workers; and

(b) if so, what were the issues involved in their strike and what steps Government would like to take to resolve the issues and to avoid any strike in future, stating its effect on the official work as well as in public dealing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It was a token of protest for one hour against the entry of Private sector into basic telecom services.

The representatives of the employees were addressed by the Minister of State for Communications and they were assured that the interest of the workers will be safeguarded while implementing the National Telecom Policy and executive steps are being taken to implement this assurance.

Violation of Financial propriety by Duncan Group of Companies

*710. **SHRI K. MOHAMMED KHAN:**
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the attempt by Goenka led Agro Duncan Group of Companies to take over the Andhra Cement Limited by raising loans from banks and financial institutions;

(b) if so, which are those banks and financial institutions which have agreed to give them loans and working capital facilities;

(c) whether Government propose to condone this Group's alleged violation of financial propriety; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY):

(a) to (d) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that the offer of M/s. Duncan Agro Industries (DAIL) for revival of M/s. Andhra Cement Company Limited on the basis of a change in management has been accepted by the Board and the rehabilitation scheme is being sanctioned under Section 18(4) of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. Of the estimated cost of the rehabilitation scheme of Rs. 76.90 crores, DAIL is expected to bring in Rs. 43 crores by way of additional equity and Rs. 22 crores by way of unsecured loans. The balance is expected to be met from internal accruals (Rs. 5.43 crores) and sales tax loan (Rs. 6.47 crores).

BIFR has also reported that apart from agreeing to provide need-based working capital, the amount of which is to be determined later, the banks/financial institutions are not providing any additional funds.

Coverage of DD and AIR Network

*711. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the target set for the Doordarshan and AIR network coverage for the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the state-wise achievement made in this regard so far; and

(c) the details of expansion of Doordarshan and AIR network planned for Orissa during the remaining period of the 8th Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND

BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Doordarshan expects to provide TV coverage to 91.8 per cent of the population and 81.4 per cent of the area of the country on completion of the schemes which have been sanctioned/ envisaged so far, as part of 8th Plan. The target set by AIR is to provide coverage to 97.5 per cent of the population and 91.0 per cent of the area of the country on completion of the 8th Plan schemes.

(b) As given in statement-I. (See below).

(c) For expansion of its network, Doordarshan has presently 2 HPTs, and 31 LPTs/VLPTs under implementation in Orissa. The locations for setting of its transmitters during the remaining part of 8th plan are, however, yet to be finalised.

Similarly, for expansion of its network in Orissa during the 8th plan, AIR has drawn up a number of schemes. The details of Doordarshan/AIR's schemes for expansion of their network are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

S. No.	State/Union Territory	Existing coverage		DDn. 1st	
		AIR Area %	Population %	Area %	Population %
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	98	99	70.5	79.8
2.	Arunachal Pradesh.	98	98	11.0	44.4
3.	Assam	86	85	54.0	82.0
4.	Bihar	99*	99*	51.0	91.7
5.	Goa	99*	99*	100.0	100.0
6.	Gujarat	99*	99*	65.5	77.0
7.	Haryana	99*	99*	96.6	98.5
8.	Himachal Pradesh	50	88	37.2	58.7
9.	Jammu Kashmir	30	85	26.7	90.4
10.	Karnataka	94	95	59.6	68.8

†Reference bring there from page 41-42