

cables are used by electricity boards; Defence and other Govt. undertakings; and

(e) if so, the percentage of ultimate price burden likely to be passed on to the consumers?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No decision has been taken to lift the price control on primary aluminium.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

#### **Modernisation of Laboratories of Bureau of Indian Standards**

**\*243. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:  
DR. ABRAR AHMED  
KHAN:**

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to modernise laboratories run by Bureau of Indian Standards so that their results are acceptable at the international level; and

(b) whether Government also propose to set up some more laboratories in the near future, if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM):** (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During the Seventh Five Year Plan, it had been envisaged to establish a laboratory each in Bangalore, Gandhi Nagar (Gujarat) and Lucknow and to expand the laboratories at Calcutta and Madras. The Bangalore laboratory has already been commissioned.

#### **Setting up of an Exclusive News Gathering Agency for Doordarshan**

**\*245. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a news gathering agency exclusively for Doordarshan;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken in this direction;

(c) whether it is a fact that some officers of the Indian Information Service have raised objections regarding the appointments for the proposed agency; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT):** (a) to (d) Strengthening and reorganisation of the news set-up in Doordarshan have become necessary for adequate collection of news material from different parts of the country as also from abroad and for better presentation of news. This will provide Doordarshan with the capacity to have its own news-gathering apparatus also.

Additional posts including 57 posts of TV News Correspondents/TV Assistant News Correspondents/TV Assistant News Editors in Artist category were sanctioned in April, 1987. Procurement of equipment exclusively for news production is also proposed. The civil posts sanctioned have been filled by cadre officers. The posts in Artist category have been filled by direct recruitment.

Applications were filed in the Central Administrative Tribunal, Delhi, against the recruitment of TV News Correspondents/TV Assistant News Correspondents/TV Assistant News Editors.