

TV Stations in Andhra Pradesh

1372. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state;

(a) what was the number of new TV Stations opened in 1986-87 (up to March, 1987) and the number of them are located in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether any new stations are planned to be opened in Andhra Pradesh this year or in the ensuing financial year; and

(c) what is the number of TV stations in the country that are producing and relaying their own programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Eighteen new TV Transmitters including one in Andhra Pradesh were commissioned during 1986-87. Besides, six TV transmitters ' operating on 100 W/1 KW power were replaced by 10 KW transmitters. Two out of these were commissioned in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Yes, Sir. A 100 W TV transmitter at Ongole in Andhra Pradesh is expected to be commissioned during 1987-88.

(c) The number of such centres at present is seventeen.

Borrowing by Public Sector Undertakings

1373. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the Reserve Bank of India and the Economic Advisory Council differ with Government's preferential to borrowing by public sector undertakings-

(b) if so, what are the reasons for their difference; and

(c) if not, what is the actual position of these two institutions on this policy and details

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (c) The Reserve Bank and the Government work in close consultation on matters of common concern and the views of the Government do not differ with those of the Reserve Bank of India, in the matters referred to in the question. The Economic Advisory Council has not submitted any report to the Government on these issues.

Failure of freight equalisation policy

1374. SHRI K. MOHANAN:

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTER-JEE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state whether Government propose to reconsider the policy regarding freight equalisation policy in view of the reported views expressed both by the Planning Commission and Finance Ministry that the said policy has failed in its objectives of dispersal of industries in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKHAM): The Government has decided in principle to phase out gradually the existing freight equalisation in respect of cement and steel, subject to subsidisation of transport for remote, inaccessible and isolated areas. It has also been decided that no new scheme of freight equalisation for industrial commodities or for essential items of mass consumption would be introduced except to subsidise transport cost of industrial commodities in the case of remote, inaccessible and isolated areas like North-Eastern Region and hill and difficult areas. In the case of cement, phasing out of freight equalisation has already commenced with the introduction of partial decontrol with effect from 28-2-1982. Freight equalisation operates only in respect of the

which is being progressively reduced. As regards steel, the Government has reviewed the earlier decision in the light of representations received) from various State Governments and has decided to refer the matter to the National Development Council.

Memorandum from Tocklai Experimental Station, Tea Research Association, Jorhat

1375. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from the employees of Tocklai Experimental Station, Tea Research Association, Jorhat, Assam;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken by Government to take over management of Tea Research Association; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Criteria for selection of songs for Chitrahaar

1376. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the procedure laid down for selection of Hindi songs for Chitrahaar telecast by Doo'rdarshan;

(b) whether there is a selection committee for the purpose, if so, what are the names of the members and their status;

(c) whether Government propose to re-constitute the Committee to make it more broad-based; and

(d) if so, by when the reconstitution of the Committee is likely to take place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) The song and dance sequences included in the Chitrahaar programme are selected by a Selection Committee keeping in view their overall suitability as an item of entertainment fit for family viewing. The Selection Committee comprises Deputy Director of Programmes, Assistant Station Director and Programme Executive/Producer Incharge.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Economic considerations for freight equalisation scheme

1377. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the economic considerations for which the freight equalisation policy was evolved and introduced;

(b) the extent to which these purposes were achieved so far; and

(c) what is the list of such items in whose case freight equalisation remain to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKHAM): (a) The Freight Equalisation Policy was evolved and introduced to promote regional dispersal of economic activity and generate employment in backward regions.

(b) The Freight Equalisation Policy has been reviewed from time to time. The issue was last examined by the National Transport Policy Committee, copies of the Report of which were