

view in the Janavani programme for telecast over the national network of Doordarshan.

After the present scheme is implemented the reactions | responses of the viewers will be studied and assessment made about the need, if any, for introducing this programme on Doordarshan Kendras in various States.

Freedom Fighters' pensions to Goa, Dadra and Nagar Haveli freedomfighters

2278. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to grant freedom fighters' pensions to the freedom fighters of Goa and Dadra and Nagar Haveli; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b) Central Government's Scheme of Pension to freedom fighters namely 'Swatantrata Sainik Samman y_ Pension Scheme' is applicable to both the Union Territories and eligible freedom fighters are given pension. In the Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu there is another pension scheme namely Goa, Daman and Diu Freedom Fighters Welfare Rules under which pension is given to freedom fighters. This Scheme has further been liberalised in May, 1986.

Setting up of earth stations

2279. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of places in the country where earth stations have been established so far;

(b) to what uses these stations are being put; and

(c) what are the details of plans to establish more earth stations and the time-targets for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Satellite Earth stations at following places in the country have been established so far for domestic satellite communication: —

(i) 29 earth stations have been set up by Department of Telecom, at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Shillong, Jalandhar, Jaipur, Lucknow, Patna, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Ernakulam, Bhubneshwar, Aizawl, Imphal, Itanagar, Kohima, Agartala, Gangtok, Port Blair, Car Nicobar, Kavaratty, Mini Coy, Bhuj, Panjim, Jodhpur, Srinagar, Leh & Kulu.

(ii) Five earth stations have been set up for public sector undertakings at urban & Offshore station (ONGC), Manakpur & Bangalore (ITI) and Vijaipur (NFL). Two earth stations have been set up by Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. for international satellite communication. (i) Arvi (Pune) and (ii) Lachiwala (Dehradun).

(b> These stations are being used for providing national and international long distance trunk telephone connections as well as national and international television coverage via satellite.

(c) Following plans have been drawn up to establish additional earth stations in the country in the 7th Plan: —

(i) 10 Transportable earth stations.

(ii) 18 earth stations in the remote backward and hilly areas of the country.