

Modernisation of T.V. centres

112. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO:
Will the Minister of INFORMATION
AND BROADCASTING be pleased to
state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Govern-
ment have recently chalked out a Plan
for the modernisation of existing T.V.
Centres during the Seventh Five Year
Plan period; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GAD-
GIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Replacement of the existing
Black and White (B/W) studio equip-
ment by colour equipment at all Door-
darshan Kendras is included in the
Seventh Plan. One of the studios at
Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi has already
been equipped with professional grade
colour equipment. Replacement of
B/W equipment by colour equipment
in one studio each at Doordarshan
Kendra, Bombay and Doordarshan
Kendra, Madras is under implemen-
tation. In addition, provision of mod-
ern production facilities at major
Doordarshan Kendras is included in
the Plan. Finally, replacement of
transmitters at seven places is also
included in the Plan.

**Price Parity between Agricultural and
Non-agricultural Commodities**

113. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE
be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government propose to
maintain a parity between the prices
of the agricultural and non-agricultu-
ral commodities;

(b) if so, what steps have been
taken by Government in this regard;
and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above
be in the negative, what are the rea-
sons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGEN-
DRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c) In
March 1980, the terms of reference of
the Commission for Agricultural Costs
and Prices were revised and the Com-
mission was enjoined to keep under
review the changes in the terms of
trade between agricultural and non-
agricultural sectors. Accordingly, the
Commission *inter alia* takes into ac-
count the changes in the prices of
commodities purchased by the farmer
as well as the prices
received by him for the products sold,
while making its recommendations.
However, in a predominantly agricul-
tural economy like India, there are in-
herent limitations in mechanically ap-
plying the concept of terms of trade
for the purpose of price policy. In an
agricultural economy susceptible to
the vagaries of rainfall, fluctuations in
production are too frequent and some-
times too large to permit a stable link
(parity) between prices of agricultural
and non-agricultural commodities. In
fact the stability in terms of trade is
a medium term concept which cannot
be applied to year to year fluctuations.

**Commission for Agricultural Cost and
Price**

114. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE
be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gov-
ernment have decided to establish an
Agricultural Cost and Price Commis-
sion in place of the existing Agricul-
tural Price Commission;