

(c) Instalments which fall due have been paid.

(d) Does not arise.

Retrenchment of Newspaper Employees

1196. SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI:

SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of newspaper employees are faced with retrenchment due to gradual introduction of computers in the newspaper industry; and

(b) if so, whether some retrenchment has already taken place in Pune, Nagpur and other places; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take in order to save the workers from retrenchment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE): (a) to (c) There are reports that a few newspaper establishments have either introduced electronic computer technology in their establishments or propose to do so. However, no assessment of the impact of the introduction of the electronic computer technology in newspaper establishments has so far been made. Nevertheless, there are sufficient safeguards under the existing legal provisions to ensure that the employers do not arbitrarily introduce changes in the conditions of service of workmen by way of rationalisation, standardisation or improvement of plant or technique, which are likely to lead to retrenchment of workmen. The Government is also not aware of any retrenchment in Pune, Nagpur, etc., on account of introduction of computers.

Hiring of T.V. Transponder of INTELSAT

1197. SHRI SYED AHMAD HASHMI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 3 given in the Rajya Sabha on 4th October, 1982 and state:

(a) what is the period of hire of TV transponder of INTELSAT;

(b) what are the hire charges therefor; and

(c) whether the facility hired shall provide the same service as INSAT-IA for normal TV transmission during and after the Asian Games?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE): (a) The INTELSAT is being hired for a period of one year with effect from 1-11-1982.

(b) The cost of leasing of INTELSAT is 1.9 million US dollars equivalent to about Rs. 1.82 crores per annum.

(c) Yes, Sir. However, TV service through the Direct Reception System in selected villages in Orissa and Andhra Pradesh which was to be linked up with INSAT-IA, will now be possible after INSAT-IB becomes operational.

Modernisation of TV Programmes

1198. SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to modernise T.V. programmes; and

(b) whether Government have any plan to popularise T.V. films produced departmentally?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes Sir.