

(b) The Government of India has participated in the financing of this film through the National Film Development Corporation, a public sector undertaking. Till date the Corporation has contributed approximately Rs. 5.87 crores towards the production of this film.

Appointments in the Srinagar Doordarshan Centre

740. SHRI ABDUL REHMAN SHEIKH; Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some producers were appointed recently in the Srinagar Doordarshan on certain considerations other than merits and ignoring the qualifications and specialised knowledge stipulated in the advertisement for these posts; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the qualifications and the specialised knowledge stipulated in the advertisement for these posts and the names and qualifications of the persons appointed as producers stating the considerations which weighed with the Government in making these appointments?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

A.J.R. coverage of North Eastern Region

741. SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY; Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state;

(a) what steps are proposed to be taken by Government for better coverage of North Eastern region by the All India Radio during the Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether it is a fact that Goalpara, North Cachar and Mikir Hill of North Eastern region have not so far been covered by the All India Radio medium wave length; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The approved Sixth Plan 1980—85 includes various schemes for improving the coverage in the North-Eastern Region. The schemes are as given in the Statement.

(b) Yes Sir; Northern parts of Goalpara, parts of North Cachar and Mikir Hills are not adequately covered by medium wave transmitters of AIR.

(c) The proposal for a local radio station at Diphu in Mikir hills has been included in the Sixth Plan. The scheme is expected to be completed during the Sixth Plan period.

It may be added that for enhancing the coverage not only by AIR but also by Doordarshan in the 7 States in the North Eastern Region, plans have been drawn up for implementing identified schemes during the current Plan period, subject to availability of additional funds.

AIR's plans include the setting up of new Radio Stations, upgrading the power of the existing ones, and involve a total investment of Rs. 24.00 crores (approximate).

Doordarshan proposals include the setting up of a mix of low power and high power transmitters and the utilisation of INSAT at an over-all cost of Rs. 25.7 crores.

Statement

The list of schemes included under Sixth Plan (1980—85) for Assam and North Eastern Region.

1. New Radio Station of 100 KW MW at Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh).

2. Upgrading of the power of high power medium-wave transmitter at Dibrugarh (Assam) to 300 KW MW.

3. Installation of a high power transmitter of 100 KW MW at Shillong (Meghalaya).

4. New Radio Station of 20 KW MW at Tura (Meghalaya).

5. Upgrading the power of short-wave transmitter at Gauhati (Assam) to 50 KW.

6. Installation of a 50 KW shortwave transmitter at Shillong for an integrated service for North Eastern region.

7. Setting up of a local radio station at Diphu (Assam) with a 1 KW MW transmitter.

Sanction of newsprint for Bengali papers

* 742. SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of circulation figures of Bengali dailies and weeklies published from North Eastern Region States and the quantum of newsprint sanctioned in their favour; and

(b) the policy of giving advertisement to those papers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN): (a) Relevant information is given in the statement.

(b) The advertisements to those papers are issued as per the guidelines laid down in the Advertisements Policy of the Government effective from 1-10-1980. A copy of the Advertisement Policy was laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

List of Bengali Dailies and Weeklies published from North Eastern States showing their claimed circulation for 1980 and Newsprint sanctioned to them in 1981-82

| Name and Periodicity | Circulation in 1980 as claimed by the Publisher | Quantity of newsprint sanctioned in 1981-82 (in tonnes) |
|---|---|---|
| ASSAM DAILIES | | |
| 1. Dainik Jugasakti, Silchar | 2,200 | 14.70 |
| 2. Jugsankha, Silchar | 3,843 | 8.71 |
| 3. Furbanchal Sambad, Gauhati | Not Supplied | 1.05 (Newsprint allotted on 2,000 copies) |
| 4. Pranta Jyoti, Silchar | 1,970 | Not Applied |
| WEEKLIES | | |
| 5. Ananda Bani, Karimganj | 1,030 | Not Applied |
| 6. Arunoday, Silchar | 2,985 | Not Applied |
| 7. Azad, Cachar | 1,450 | Not Applied |
| 8. Cachar, Hailakandi | 2,682 | Not Applied |
| 9. Dalin, Kailakandi | 1,660 | 0.44 |
| 10. Dristipat, Karimganj | 200 | Not Applied |