

Relay of Maithili programmes from the Patna Station of the All India Radio

♦272. SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Patna station of the All India Radio has stopped relaying of Maithili programmes;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative what is the total time allotted per day for the Maithili programmes relayed from Patna, Ranchi and Darbhanga stations of the All India Radio at present and how much time was allotted to such programmes six months ago?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI V. P. SATHE): (a) No, Sir. Patna continues to broadcast a 30 mts. Maithili programme twice a week under the title 'Bharti'.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Total time devoted to Maithili programmes from Patna, Ra-nehi and Darbhanga is indicated below:—

Patna—i hrs. 30 mts. per month. Ranchi—

Nil.

Darbhanga—28 hrs. 20 mts. per month.

The above details do not include Maithili songs broadcast from the Stations. There has been no change in the quantum of Maithili programmes either from Darbhanga or from Patna during the last six months.

Losses by Hindustan Antibiotics Limited

*273. SHRI HARVENDAR SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FKPVILI/ERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Hindustan Antibiotics Limited at Pimpri is running at a colossal loss due to inefficiency arising out of mismanagement, under-utilisation of capacity and frequent break down;

(b) if so, what is the extent of loss suffered during the last two years; and

(c) what effective measures are being taken to improve the performance of this public sector unit?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) to (c) A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL) have incurred losses in the last few years despite a high level of capacity utilisation for most of the bulk drugs produced by them. The losses were mainly due to the fact that the increasing cost of inputs were not neutralised by corresponding increases in prices.

(b) The losses during 1978-79 and 1979-80 are as follows:

1978-79	Rs. 197.16 lakhs
1979-80 (Provisional)	Rs. 273.87 lakhs

(c) The following measures to improve the working of the Company are in hand:—

(i) Expansion of capacities for the manufacture of bulk drugs and formulations; including rehabilitation of the Vitamin *C Plant;

(ii) Replacement of existing old equipments, which have not been replaced for a number of years;

(iii) Introduction of the modern management technique of systems approach for plant preventive maintenance, production planning and control and man-power development;

(iv) Expansion of marketing activities to penetrate the trade market and reduce dependence on institutional sales; and

(v) Fixation of fair prices for their products.

Assault on Silewara Colliery workers

*274. SHRI S. KUMARAN:
SHRI BHOLA PRASAD:
SHRI KALYAN ROY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there has been a total stoppage of production in Silewara Colliery under WCL from 3rd shift on 7-7-1980 following a severe assault on a category One worker by Shri R. K. Sharma, Under Manager;

(b) whether Government have received a representation jointly signed by INTUC, AITUC, HMS and CIT Unions regarding this stoppage; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that while discussion was going on between the union representative and management, three more workers were suspended on the 9th and 11th July; if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the management further issued a notice that there would be no payment of wages for 10th July which is a clear violation of the Payment of Wages Act; and

(e) what steps have been taken by Government to settle the dispute through discussion with the unions' leaders and what are the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) Government are aware that there was a total stoppage of production in Silewara Colliery under Western Coalfields Limited from 2nd shift on 7-7-1980

following allegation of assault on a casual worker by Shri R. K. Sharma, Under Manager.

(b) Yes, Sir. The representation addressed to Sub-Area Manager, Silewara Project alleged assault of a casual worker by Shri R. K. Sharma, payment of wages on 10-7-1980 after 4.30 p.m., suspension of some workers, etc. and appealed for immediate action against Shri Sharma.

(c) One workman was charge-sheeted and suspended pending enquiry on 9-7-80 and another two on 10-7-80 for serious misconduct viz. forcible prevention of workmen from essential duty and from proceeding on duty and threatening them with dire consequences, instigation of workmen for illegal strike and threatening Senior Security Inspector, etc.

(d) Management issued a notice on 9th July stating that on account of prevalent tense situation in the colliery and consequent risk to cash and pay clerks, who had expressed in writing on 9-7-80, their inability to make payment on 10-7-80 due to such risk, it may not be possible to make payment on 10th July. However, after discussion with Civil authority and adequate security arrangement, payment was made on the scheduled day i.e. 10th July.

(e) As a result of a number of discussions Management had with the Unions during the period of strike at different levels, a settlement was finally reached on 31st July at night and work was resumed from the 3rd shift of 31st July.

कमला बलान बांध का विस्तार

*275. श्री राम भगत दासवान :
क्या सिंचाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने बिहार में कमला बलान बांध का आगरवाट तिलकोश्वर तक विस्तार करने की कोई