

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The requests relate to setting up of new radio stations at Surat, Ahwa (Dang), Porbandar and Bhavnagar. However, it has not been found possible to accede to these requests owing to financial constraints and relative priorities.

(c) There is no proposal to set up a Radio Station at Bhavnagar which is already within the primary grade service area of the radio stations at Rajkot and Ahmedabad. Moreover, there is an approved sixth Plan scheme for upgradation of the power of the transmitter at Rajkot. When this is implemented, there will be still better reception in the area.

Payment of bills of the newspapers/periodicals

556. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the DAVP is making payment of bills from media within five weeks;

(b) whether private advertising agencies approved by the DAVP for work of public sector firms take very long time to make payments to media though they collect money from public sector advertisers;

(c) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to ensure that small publishers are not harassed by these agencies; and

(d) what are the reasons for not compelling the private agencies to follow payment schedule standards set up by the DAVP itself?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Complaints are occasionally received from the newspapers/periodicals that they are not getting payments of their bills from the accredited advertising agencies or making certain allegations about the discriminatory practices by certain accredited advertising agencies in the matter of payment to non-IENS members.

(c) and (d) Such complaints are immediately looked into by the DAVP and if these are found to be correct, accreditation of defaulting advertising agencies is withdrawn or they are advised to take corrective measures.

Inter-State river water disputes

357. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA: SHRIMATI AZIZA IMAM: SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps taken by the Central Government for the speedy solution of the inter-State river disputes for taking up large river valley projects jointly by the Central and the State Governments; and

(b) what are the hydel power projects that have been delayed due to these river disputes during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR PANDEY): (a) The main river water disputes pending relate to the use and development of the waters of the Godavari, Cauvery and Yamuna basins. The present position of these disputes and the details of efforts made to resolve them are as under:

Godavari Basins: In the case of Godavari, from time to time, the party States had entered into various agreements for the distribution of waters. The Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal set up under the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956, in its report submitted to the Central Government on the 27th Nov-