

how much investment has so far been made in the project and by when it is expected to give production;

(fo) whether it is a fact that the Baroda Heavy Water Plant was shut down in the year 1977 because of internal sabotage in which the foreign elements were also involved;

(c) if so, what were the reasons therefor; and

(d) what action Government have taken to protect such plants from internal and foreign sabotage?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) to (c) The construction of Baroda Heavy Water Plant was started in October, 1972, Commissioning of the plant was started in May, 1975. The capital cost of the plant is Rs. 34.17 crores. The plant was shut down on 3-12-1977 due to an accident caused by a mechanical failure of the ammonia quench assembly spool piece and not due to any sabotage. The revamping and testing of the plant has been completed and it is now expected to start production by April 1980.

(d) Government have provided for adequate security measures in all Heavy Water Plants.

Recommendation of Sondhi Committee on Electronics Commission

204. SHRI JAGJIT SINGH

ANAND:

SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA:
SHRI LAKSHMANA
MAHAPATRO: Will the PRIME
MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 'Sondhi Committee has recommended < the abolition of Electronics Commission;

(b) whether it is a fact that the members of the scientific and technical officers association of the Department of Electronics have expressed their grave concern in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard and what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) The Review Committee on Electronics headed by Shri Mantosh Sondhi have recommended replacement of the Electronics Commission, which is a policy making body, by an Electronics Development Commission which is to be a purely advisory body.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government have no intention of altering the basic structure or responsibilities of the Electronics Commission, as at present.

Production of various T.V. sets in the country

205. SHRI JAGJIT SINGH

ANAND:

SHRI KHURSHED ALAM

KHAN:

SHRI SUJAN SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what was the average production of various television sets in the country during the period from January to December, 1979 and what is the percentage of drop in the production of T.V. sets during that period;

(fo) what was the production of T.V. sets during the last year both in the small scale as well as large scale sectors and whether two large scale production units—J.K. and Telerad have stopped production;

(c) what is the number of units out of 73 units which were licensed approved so far to produce T.V. sets, are producing; and

(d) what is the number of units the annual production of which is less than 5,000 T.V. sets?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) The average production of television

sets during 1979 was of 25,000 sets per month. The corresponding average production during 1978 was 22,000 numbers per month. There was, therefore, no drop in average production during 1979.

(b) The production of T. V. sets in small scale sector and large scale sector during January-December 1979 was estimated to be 2,24,000 sets and 76,250 sets respectively. M/s J.K. Electronics and M/s Telerad have discontinued production.

(c) Of the units licensed/approved for production, around 50 units are in production.

(3) There are around 29 units having production less than 5000 sets per annum.

Prices of picture tubes

20G. SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND:

SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN:

SHRI SUJAN SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bharat Electronics Ltd., made a commitment on the Marathe Panel to reduce the prices of picture tubes after reaching the production of 8000 picture tubes per month;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and whether the commitment has been fulfilled; and

(c) what has been the impact of Budget for 1979-80 on the prices of different types of electronic components manufactured in the country?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The general excise duty leviable on components under tariff head 68 was increased from 5 per cent to 8 per cent in the budget of 1979-80. The

component price on this account have increased to that extent.

Atrocities committed by Army and CRF personnel in Kamrup district of Assam

207. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA:

SHRI HARISHANKAR BHABHRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some parts of the Kamrup District in Assam were handed over to the army in January, 1980;

(b) whether curfew was clamped in that district during that period;

(c) whether the army and C.R.P. personnel committed atrocities including raping of women in Kumarikata and Khakharisal villages of Nalbari sub-division;

(d) whether the army personnel committed these atrocities under orders of their superiors;

(e) if so, how many women suffered such atrocities and how many of them were Hindus and how many Muslims;

(f) whether the public of Assam has demanded enquiry and punishment of the culprits; and

(g) whether Government have punished the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA):

(a) and (b) Consequent on deterioration in law and order situation, army assistance was requisitioned by civil authorities in Kamrup district from 5th January, 1980. Curfew had also to be imposed in specific areas for varying periods. North bank areas of Kamrup district were declared as "disturbed areas" on 8th January and army began intensive patrolling in order to effectively maintain public order. This had salutary effect and