

(c) if so, what are the reasons for not extending similar benefits to the AIR Special Correspondents working in Iran and Egypt.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI V. P. SATHE): (a) AIR Special Correspondents posted abroad are equated with First Secretary or Second Secretary of the Indian Missions in the concerned country, depending upon their pay scale, for the purpose of payment of foreign allowance.

(b) The rates of foreign allowance of India-based personnel in Indian Missions abroad are revised by the Ministry of External Affairs from time to time. The rates of foreign allowance in respect of certain Indian Missions, including Tehran, Cairo and Hong Kong were revised/increased with effect from 1-1-1979.

(c) The benefit of foreign allowance at revised rates has already been extended to AIR Special Correspondent at Cairo. The case of AIR Special Correspondent at Tehran for sanction of foreign allowance at revised rates is being processed in consultation with Ministry of External Affairs.

Loss in industrial and agricultural production due to power shortage

*97. DR. V. P. DUTT:

SHRI N. P. CHENGALRAYA
NAIDU:

SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD.

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

(a) whether Government are aware of the acute shortage of power in the country leading to huge losses in industrial production and agriculture,

(b) if so, what are the reasons for lower shortage; and

(c) what are short-term and long-term plans drawn by Government for power generation and what are the financial implications thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURY): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) A number of States are presently facing shortage of power. The main reasons for the power shortage are:—

(i) failure of the monsoons in some of the States, resulting in lower availability of the hydel power from hydro-electric power stations;

(ii) increase in demand, particularly from the Agricultural sector due to unprecedented drought conditions prevailing in the States and change in cropping pattern in some states;

(iii) inadequacy of installed generating capacity to meet the increasing load demand; and

(iv) relatively poor performance of thermal power stations due to shortage of coal at some of the thermal power stations and poor maintenance at other stations;

Shortage of power does affect agricultural and industrial production. Power supply to the agricultural consumers is, however, given on priority basis and as such the effect of power shortage on agricultural production is comparatively less.

(c) A number of short-term and long-term plans have been taken for increasing power generation in the country. These measures include:

(i) maximising generation from existing thermal capacity in the Central Sector. State Governments have also been advised to similarly maximise generation from their thermal generating capacity:

(ii) addition of about 17122 MW of new generating capacity during the period 1978-83 involving a total outlay of about Rs. 9,272 crores on generation of power alone. About 3000 MW have already been commissioned during 1978-79;

(iii) monitoring of coal stocks and ensuring availability of adequate coal to thermal power stations for maximizing generation from thermal power stations.

(iv) arranging training for thermal power plant engineers and operators;

(v) improving management of thermal power stations.

U.P. Chalchitra Nigam Advertisements

*98 SHRI SYED AHMAD
HASHMI:
SHRI KISHAN LAL SHARMA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Uttar Pradesh Chalchitra Nigam Limited, Lucknow, issues advertisements to those local daily newspapers which are published from the Districts of Uttar Pradesh and have been approved for the Uttar Pradesh Government's advertisement by the Directorate of Information and Public Relations, Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the names of those newspapers and what are their circulation figures of a publishing day;

(c) whether it is a fact that some Editors of daily newspapers of Aligarh have recently applied for obtaining advertisements issued by the Uttar Pradesh Chalchitra Nigam Limited, Lucknow for insertion in their newspapers; and

(d) if so, what are the names of those newspapers and what action has been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI V. P. SATHE): (a) to (d) The matter relates to the State Government. The information is being collected from the concerned State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Guidelines to Censor Board

*99. SHRI S. W. DHABE:
DR. BHAI MAHAVIR:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

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

(a) whether any guidelines or directions have been issued or are proposed to be issued to the Censor Board to permit kissing scenes in Indian films; and

(b) what further steps Government propose to take to improve the standard of the Indian films so as to make it a powerful instrument of healthy recreation?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI V. P. SATHE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) (i) A Working Group has been appointed to study the present state of the film industry and to suggest a National Film Policy. (ii) Government have instituted National Awards for Indian films in order to encourage films of artistic excellence and (iii) Film Finance Corporation, a Government of India undertaking, provides loans to producers of good films and also assists in their distribution and exhibition.

Expert Committee on Judicial reforms

*100. SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR:
SHRI RAMANAND YADAV:
SHRI R. NARASIMHA
REDDY:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state: