

Doordarshan Kendras was held in the month of February to discuss qualitative improvements in programming within the available resources. One of the decisions they took was to produce song sequences for use on Doordarshan with good lyrical content and attractive tunes based on folk, traditional, semi-classical and classical tunes. The services of talented people in the above fields will be sought. A beginning is being made at Delhi, Bombay, Madras and Calcutta Doordarshan Kendras.

**Scheme for development of folk-songs and folk-dances**

- 1741. SHRI PRASENJIT BARMAN:  
SHRIMATI PRATIMA BOSE:  
SHRI JAHARLAL BANERJEE:

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

(a) whether there is any scheme for development of folk-songs and folk-dances in the various parts of the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI LAL K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) A Scheme for the collection and preservation of the folk music of the country of the various important regions in India to be financed from the Non-lapsable Fund has been prepared by Akashvani. The scheme relates to streamlining the system of collection and indexing of folk music already in possession of various A.I.R. Stations and to collect periodical folk music from heretofore unexplored regions of the countryside. The estimated cost of the scheme is about Rs. 38 lakhs. This scheme is initially proposed to be introduced at 20 A.I.R. stations. Recently Doordarshan has also been asked to pre-

pare a scheme for the collection and preservation of folk dance forms etc.

**Import of Soda ash**

1742. SHRI PRANAB CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether this Ministry, in consultation with the D.G.T.D. has requested the State Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Corporation Limited to make arrangements for the import of 7,000 tonnes of soda ash through the Users' Associations so as to provide relief to the consumers;

(b) if so, how much soda ash has been imported by now;

(c) whether an Advisory Committee and a Standing Committee were constituted for allocations of soda ash to consumers;

(d) if so, who are the members of these two Committees; and

(e) whether the stoppage of supplies to the President of the All India Silicate Manufacturers Association of soda ash users has been restored; if so, how much soda ash was allotted to him and how much was drawn by him?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA):

(a) With a view to give immediate relief to the consumers of Soda Ash, State Chemicals and Pharmaceutical Corporation of India Limited (CPC) were requested in July, 1978, in consultation with the DGTD, to arrange for the immediate import of 20,000 tonnes of Soda Ash. Later on, a number of representations were received from the Users' Association to the effect that Canalisation of Imports through the CPC might result in delay in the imports of Soda Ash. They also felt that they would be able to get the material at cheaper rates than the CPC. In view of the

representations from the Users Associations the matter was reviewed and in consultation with the Chairman, CPC, it was decided that two Associations of Actual Users be permitted instead to import the required quantity. These Associations were the All India Glass Manufacturers Federation and the All India Silicate Manufacturers Association. They were authorised to import 10,000 tonnes each of Dense and Light Soda Ash respectively.

(b) In view of reply to (a) above there have been no imports of Soda Ash by CPC.

(c) Yes, Sir.

An Advisory Committee on Soda Ash was constituted on 7th August, 1978, with a view to sort out the problems concerning the allocation of imported Soda Ash. The allocation of imported Soda Ash by CPC to actual users was to be done at the instance of the Advisory Committee only.

A Standing Committee on Soda Ash was also appointed on 7th August, 1978 with a view to sort out the problems concerning the production, distribution and consumption of Soda Ash.

(d) The Composition of the Advisory Committee on Soda Ash was as under:—

1. Joint Secretary (Drugs & Admn.)/Director (Chemicals), Deptt. of Chemicals & Fertilisers . Chairman
2. A Representative of the DGTD . Member.
3. A Representative of the DCSSI . Member.
4. A Representative of the GPC . Member

The Composition of the Standing Committee on Soda Ash is as under:—

1. Joint Secretary (Drugs & Admn.)/Director (Chemicals), Deptt. of Chemicals & Fertilisers . Chairman

2. A Representative of DGTD . Member
3. A Representative of DCSSI . Member
4. A Representative of the CCI&E . Member
5. A Representative of the Railway Board . Member.
6. A Representative of Ministry of Shipping & Transport . Member
7. A Representative of the All India Glass Manufacturers Federation . Member
8. A Representative of the All India Silicate Manufacturers Association . Member
9. A Representative of the Indian Chemical Manufacturers Association . Member
10. A Representative each of the four Manufacturers of Soda Ash . Member

(e) Yes, Sir. This part of the question presumably refers to the stoppage of supplies to M/s. Metro Chemicals, Calcutta in which Shri S. S. Singhania, President of the All India Silicate Manufacturers Association, is reported to have interest.

M/S Tata Chemicals and M/S Saurashtra Chemicals have reported that they have supplied the following quantities of Soda Ash to M/S Metro Chemicals:—

1. Saurashtra Chemicals—173,350 tonnes from July-Dec. 78.
2. Tata Chemicals Ltd.—130 tonnes from May-Dec. 78.

However, we have been informed of an interim injunction issued by the City Civil Court, Calcutta restraining Shri S. S. Singhania and others from using the name of All India Silicate Manufacturers Association or from asserting or representing or alleging as having any connection therewith in any way or from acting or purporting to act in

any capacity of office-bearer or otherwise for or on behalf of the said Association until further orders.

#### Loan by World Bank for rural electrification

1743. SHRI PRANAB CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loan given by the World Bank for rural electrification during the last three years, and what is the rate of interest charged thereon; and

(b) what is the break-up of loans given to each of the States and the rates of interest charged from the States?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) A development credit agreement was signed on 23-7-1975 with the IDA for rural electrification project for a credit of \$ 57 million. A service charge at the rate of 3¼ per cent per annum on the principal amount of the Credit withdrawn and outstanding from time to time is payable by the Government of India to the Association.

Funds under this Credit are made available by the World Bank by way

of reimbursement of cost of major items of materials procured by the eligible State Electricity Boards for execution of rural electrification projects approved by the Rural Electrification Corporation. On the basis of the materials procured and claims submitted, reimbursement under the Credit started in 1976-77 and so far a total amount of about \$ 19.4 million have been made available by the World Bank.

(b) The funds provided by the World Bank under the Credit are made available to the Rural Electrification Corporation through the Government of India in the shape of loans for further re-lending to the State Electricity Boards for their rural electrification schemes. A statement giving State-wise break-up of value of orders placed for procurement of materials under the Credit and the reimbursements received so far from the World Bank is enclosed.

The loans advanced by the Corporation to the State Electricity Boards carry net effective interest at rates varying from 5.75 per cent per annum to 9.25 per cent per annum for different categories of schemes and for different periods.

#### Statement

*The value of orders placed by SEBS under IDA Credit 572-in and Amount of Credit Passed by the World Bank to the Government of India during the last 3 years.*

(Value in million)

Sl. No.	State Electricity Board	Value of orders placed	Amount of credit received by the Govt. of India
1	2	3	4
<i>A. Value of orders placed.</i>			
1	Andhra Pradesh . . . . .	5.188	1.414
2	Assam . . . . .	2.332	1.193