

plant resources have been discussed. A training course in Biofuels, Bioproduktivty and Photosynthesis is being organised at Madurai in collaboration with United Nations Environment Programme.

Ex-ICS officer as Chairman of the Rural Electrification Corporation

1042. SHRI GIAN CHAND TOTU:

DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:

SHRI KALP NATH RAI:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rural Electrification Corporation is run by a 72 year ex-ICS officer as its Chairman; and

(b) what is the rent paid by the Corporation for his residence?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Dr. B. Venkatappiah, formerly of the Indian Civil Service is the Chairman of the Corporation.

(b) The Corporation has provided Dr. B. Venkatappiah with office-cum-residence accommodation. The rent of the residential portion of the building is Rs. 1556 per month.

Launching of India's second satellite

1043. DR LOKESH CHANDRA:

SHRI KALP NATH RAI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's second satellite is to be launched during this month; and

(b) whether essential items for the satellite payload have been received in time?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI (MORARJI DESAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Almost all essential items for the Satellite Payload have now been received.

Comprehensive Bill for the employees of the Film Industry

1044. SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state the steps Government have taken to introduce a comprehensive Bill for the employees in the film industry including those who are termed as casual, daily-rated, temporary and contractual?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI LAL K. ADVANI): Legislation for the protection of Service conditions of film workers has been under consideration for quite some time. After consultation with the various interests concerned, a scheme has been drawn up and it is proposed to introduce necessary legislation shortly.

1045. [Transferred to the 15th December, 1978]

Minister's tours during October 1978

1046. SHRI SATCHIDANANDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of days for which the Union Minister of Industry was out of Delhi in October, 1978;

(b) the amount spent on his T.A./D.A. during the last one year for his tours within India and abroad, separately; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the work of the Ministry of Industry suffered owing to his absence from Headquarters for a long time in October, 1978?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) Twenty seven days.

(b) (i) Expenditure on tours within India. Rs. 53,023.10.

(ii) Expenditure on tours abroad Rs. 62,686.25 (includes a sum of Rs. 4872.26 incurred in foreign currency).