

Allahabad Radio Station

192. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the transmitting range of Allahabad Radio Station is limited only to 20 to 30 kilometres;

(b) whether it is a fact that programmes from Allahabad are transmitted by telephone to Lucknow and relayed only from there; and

(c) whether in view of the fact that the Allahabad Radio Station is required to serve 8 districts, including Mirzapur, the transmitting capacity of Allahabad Radio Station is proposed to be increased to 100 K.W. ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA) : (a) The service range of Allahabad transmitter extends to about 35 to 40 Kilometres. Areas outside this range are adequately covered by the transmitting at Lucknow.

(b) No, Sir. The station has two 1 k.w. medium-wave transmitter—one for the main channel and the other for Vividh Bharati service.

(c) No, Sir. Allahabad Radio Station is expected to serve the city and its adjoining areas.

Fire in the official residence of GOC, Northern Command

193. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the official residence of the GOC, Northern Command at Srinagar was completely gutted by a disastrous fire at mid night of the 29th May, 1976;

(b) whether the GOC, his family and guests were staying in the house at the time of the incident;

(c) what is the extent of damage caused to life and property;

(d) whether any inquiry has been instituted to find out the cause of the fire; and

(e) whether the building was insured against fire ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) A fire broke out in the Transit Officers' Mess Annexe building, in which the GOC-in-C stays while on tour at Srinagar, on the night of 29th/30th May, 1976. The first floor of the building was gutted by the fire, but the ground floor remained substantially safe and intact.

(b) The GOC-in-C was out on tour at that time, but his family and guests were staying in the Annexe building when the fire broke out.

(c) The damage to property was as follows :—

(i) Government property :

Rs. 1,04,593.40

(ii) Regimental property :

Rs. 18,266.62

(iii) Personal property of GOC-in-C :

Rs. 6,032.00

(iv) No casualty or injury was sustained by any person in the fire.

(d) Prompt action was taken to put out the fire by the Army and Civil fire brigades. A Court of Inquiry has been ordered and its proceedings are under finalisation.

(e) The building was not insured as it is an Army property.

Production of Pulp

194. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SAKHALECHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state the names of the companies which produce pulp in the country alongwith their licensed capacity and actual production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI B. P. MAURYA) : At present there is only one unit viz. M/s. Central Pulp Mill producing paper grade pulp for market sale. The licensed capacity of this mill was 22,500 tonnes per annum till last year, but this year it has expanded its capacity to 40,000 tonnes per annum. The production of paper grade pulp by M/s. Central Pulp Mill during 1975 was 20,361 tonnes.