

\*384. [Transferred to the 20th August, 1974.]

#### Site for Delhi Earth Station

\*385. SHRI R. K. MISHRA: Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have selected the site for the location of the Delhi Earth Station under the Satellite Instructional Television Experiment; and

(b) if so, by when the Delhi Earth Station is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER Who will also assist the Prime Minister in Parliamentary work relating to the Departments of Atomic Energy, Electronics and Space (SHRI K. C. PANT):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Station is scheduled to become operational by June 1975.

SHRI R. K. MISHRA: Will the Minister be pleased to state where exactly the site is located for the Delhi Earth Station and whether acquisition proceedings in regard to that site have been started?

SHRI K. C. PANT: The site has been selected. As far as I know it does not require acquisition proceedings. It is Government land.

SHRI R. K. MISHRA: Where?

SHRI K. C. PANT: Sir, this site is the Malcha Mahal site, behind the Budha Jayanti Park measuring about 144 acres.

SHRI R. K. MISHRA: Will the Minister be pleased to state whether the target date when the Delhi Earth Station is scheduled to be operational in June 1975 will be kept or is it likely to be delayed?

SHRI K. C. PANT: No. It is intended to be kept.

\*386. [The questions (Shri Viswanatha Menon and Dr. K. Mathew Kurian) were absent. For answer, vide col 37 infra.]

#### †Mineral Development in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan

\*272. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

SHRI GANESH LAL MALI: ‡

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have directed the State Governments to shelve all new programmes of mineral development and natural resources exploitation in view of the present economic situation; and

(b) if so, what are the details of such programmes and schemes proposed to be shelved during the Fifth Five Year Plan period in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Mr. Deputy Chairman in the Chair]

SHRI GANESH LAL MALI: Sir, the south-west part of Rajasthan is very rich in minerals and the development of south-west Rajasthan especially and the rest of Rajasthan in general, depends upon mineral development. If, as per direction of the Central Government, the State shelves future mineral development for the next five years, the economy of the State as a whole will be shattered because the development of the State mostly depends upon mineral development. Therefore, may I know from the hon. Minister what steps are proposed to be taken to ensure that the shelving of the mineral development programmes does not seriously hamper the economic development of the State, throwing thousands out of employment?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I have already said that there is no proposal to shelve this plan. So, naturally this question does not arise.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Next question.

†Transferred from the 2nd August, 1974.

‡The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Ganesh Lal Mali.