

(c) what were the subjects discussed in the conference and the decisions taken by it?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA): (a) to (c) Apart from newspaper reports that the All India Trade Union Congress held its 28th Session at Guntur from January 28, 1970 to February 1, 1970 and passed certain resolutions, Government have no other information about the conference.

INDIA LAGGING BEHIND PAKISTAN IN PROGRESS OF T.V.

738. SARDAR NARINDAR SINGH BARAR:

SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the progress of Television in India has been behind that of Pakistan;

(b) if so, the number of T.V. transmitting stations set up in Pakistan and in India and the comparative figures of the population and area coverage thereof;

(c) the main reasons for the slow progress of T.V. in India; and

(d) whether any comprehensive programme has been chalked out for the expansion of T.V. facilities on a nation wide basis, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) It is a fact that there are more television stations in Pakistan than in India.

(b) According to published information available, there are four television stations in Pakistan. Definite information about the area and population served by these stations

is not available. India has only one TV station at Delhi serving an area of about 5,000 Sq. Kms. According to 1961 census, the population in this area is 36 lakhs and the number of sets about 10,000.

(c) Paucity of resources.

(d) A comprehensive plan for covering the whole country with a TV net-work has not been prepared. The Fourth Plan contains provision for establishment of stations at Srinagar, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Kanpur/Lucknow, and expansion of Delhi station.

Low Cost Films

739. DR. (MRS.) MANGLA DEVI TALWAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to grant aid/loan to low cost films; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS, (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b) The Film Finance Corporation, a public undertaking financed by the Government of India, grants loans for production of films of good quality with a view to raising the standard of films produced in the country. The Corporation has taken a decision not to finance very costly production ventures so as to devote its resources only to comparatively low-cost films of good quality.

FILM CORPORATION

740. DR. (MRS.) MANGLA DEVI TALWAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state whether Government are contemplating to form an autonomous Corporation for the Films?