

rage waiting period for the entire country will rise from the present 4.3 years to 5 years by the end of the Plan period. For Kerala it will rise to about 4 years from the present 3.3 years. As on 31-3-69 Kerala Circle had an equipped capacity of 42,135 lines with 32,194 direct exchange lines and a waiting list of 15262. It is proposed to increase the capacity by about 26,000 lines during the IV Plan.

PUBLICATION ON THE LIFE AND TEACHINGS OF GURU NANAK

393. SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to bring out a series of publications on the life and teachings of Guru Nanak on the occasion of his 500th birth anniversary in November this year;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether the A.I.R. Stations have been instructed to broadcast the teachings and messages of Guru Nanak during that period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b) It is proposed to bring out a publication in English, Hindi and Punjabi on the life and teachings of Guru Nanak. The book would include articles on the various aspects of his personality and teachings by eminent writers and some of his sayings. It is also proposed to bring out a short biography of Guru Nanak in Hindi meant for children and readers of average education.

(c) Yes, Madam. Heads of stations of all India Radio have been asked to arrange special programmes during the months from October to December, 1969. The special programmes to be broadcast by stations will be features, series of talks, recitations from the holy Granth Sahib, Shabad Kirtan, hymns etc. Regional stations will broadcast programmes in their respective regional languages.

SETTING UP OF FILM COUNCIL

394. SHRI S. A. KHAJA MOHI-DEEN : Will the Minister of INFORMA-

TION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 543 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th May, 1969 and to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to set up a National Film Council in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and what will be the main functions of the Council; and

(c) the time by when the Council will start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c) Final decision about the functions, scope and areas of operations of the proposed Film Council will be taken after consultations with the Film Industry are completed.

PROGRAMME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

395. SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what are the personnel of the Programme Advisory Committee for All India Radio Station at Calcutta ;

(b) when was the said Committee formed;

(c) whether the State Government was consulted at the time of formation of the said Committee; and

(d) the principles followed in the formation of the Advisory Committee and the Consultative Panel for different subjects like Agriculture, Industry, Labour etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) A list of personnel of the old Programme Advisory Committee for All India Radio, Calcutta, is laid on the Table of the House. (See below). A new Committee according to revised constitution is, however, proposed to be constituted in its place. This Committee will consist of the Minister of Information/Publicity as Chairman, the Leader of the Opposition of the State Assembly, two Members of Parliament, two Members of