

TELEVISION SYSTEM

219. **SHRI R. K. PODDAR** : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to have a net work of television system in India using satellite communications; and

(b) if so, what is the estimated capital cost thereof and the sources wherefrom it will be obtained ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). The question of using satellite for television coverage in India is under consideration. It will be possible to work out the estimates of cost and sources of procurement after concrete proposals have emerged.

RUSSIAN FLEET IN INDIAN OCEAN AND AMERICAN BASE IN ANDAMANS

220. **SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY** : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether her attention has been drawn to an article as reported in Indian Express dated 21st January, 1969, Bangalore Edition to the effect that the Indian Government allowed entry of the Russian fleet into the Indian Ocean and American base is being created in Andamans; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the Government of India in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH) :

(a) Government has seen the press report.

(b) The report published in the paper is totally unfounded.

MIG FACTORY AT SUNABAD

221. **SHRI N. PATRA** : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether he had participated in the function held at the Mig Factory at Sunabad on 2nd January, 1969 in which large scale arrests were made by the police; and

(b) if so, what were the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Minister for Defence Production and not the Defence Minister had participated in the function held at Sunabad on 2nd January 1969. After the function was over, a crowd of local inhabitants of the area prevented the guests from returning to the township. Subsequently some of them indulged in stone-throwing. 24 persons were arrested by the police in connection with these incidents.

LAUNCHING OF INDIAN SATELLITE

22. **SHRI GANESHILAL CHAUDHARY** : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India is planning to launch a satellite in the next few years;

(b) if so, the progress so far made; and

(c) when the Indian satellite will be launched ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The plans are designed to launch a low altitude satellite for research in aeronomy in about five years.

223. [*Transferred to the 26th February, 1969.*]

ACQUISITION OF LAND BELONGING TO PEOPLE OF NASIRABAD

224. **SHRI B. K. KAUL** : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :