

progress of civil works by the contracting agency. The project is expected to be completed by March, 2001.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) So far 17 tele-films, 3 tele-plays, 13 documentaries and 3 discussions have been telecast on Doordarshan as part of the campaign against terrorism and insurgency. Also, the surrender of a large number of ULFA activists on 14.08.2000, and an interview with the leader of the surrendered group was telecast. TV reports on peace rallies and programmes on the subject produced by the State Government have also been telecast.

(f) Prasar Bharati will be telecasting similar programmes on a regular basis in future.

Programmes Telecast on National and Regional Channels of DD

3081. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of films/serials and other programmes telecast in Telugu, Kannada and Malyalam language on National and regional channels of Doordarshan;

(b) the names of those Doordarshan Centres from where the above programmes in their languages are being telecast; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to increase the telecast time of programmes in South-belt languages?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Proposals Pending for Setting up of AIR and DD Centres

3082. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals which have been pending, at present, for setting up of Radio Stations and Doordarshan Centres in different parts of the country, State-wise/Location-wise/District-wise;

(b) since when; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the implementation of such projects in the country?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Requests for setting up of new AIR/Doordarshan Stations are received from time to time by Prasar Bharati and these are taken into consideration while formulating Five Year Plans/Annual Plans, subject to availability of resources and infrastructural facilities.

Prasar Bharati formulates plans for expansion of AIR/Doordarshan facilities in the country after taking into account existing coverage, financial resources, availability of infrastructural facilities at a given place and extent of resultant coverage etc. Prasar Bharati has no list of pending proposals for setting up of Radio Stations or Doordarshan Kendras.

(c) Regular monitoring of all projects in AIR and Doordarshan Network is carried out by Prasar Bharati at Field, Zonal and Head Quarter level and remedial measures, to the extent feasible, are taken for completion of projects within their specified target dates.

Commercial Telecast “Kaun Chahe Utarna”

3083. **DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether she had the occasion to watch and witness a commercial telecast by some private channels on motorbike captioned as “Kaun Chahe Utarna”;

(b) whether it is a fact that the commercial telecast shows the children below the age of 14 as shoe shine boys, which is in bad taste and obnoxious to our sensibilities;

(c) if so, whether the captionist has the right to humiliate the poor children of our country; and

(d) what steps are being taken to stop the commercial telecast?