

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure against new entrant the distribution arrangement system after de-control of the pig iron?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Distribution and pricing of pig iron has been deregulated with effect from 16 th January, 1992. After de-regulation, requirement of only five sectors, namely, Defence, Railways, Exporters of Engineering Goods, Small Scale sector and North Eastern States are met on Priority by Main Producers at prices announced by them from time to time. The Development Commissioner for Iron and Steel (DCI & S) makes allocation of pig iron only to 5 designated priority sectors. Requirements of other consumers are met by Main Producers in accordance with their distribution guidelines.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The allocation of pig iron by DCI & S for the small scale units in the State of Gujarat is made only to the Gujarat small Industries Corporation, and not to individual units.

#### **Regional Language Programme in Kerala**

3443. SHRI RAMESHCHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the telecast time of regional language programmes from Doordarshan Kendras in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and

(b). The duration of the Regional language programmes telecast from Doordarshan Kendra, Trivandrum is likely to be increased by half-an-hour, consequent upon restructuring of its programmes with effect from 01.01.1993.

#### **Sale of Boeing 737 aircraft**

3444. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines proposed to sale the entire fleet of Boeing 737 aircraft; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Japanese Assistance for Tourism in Karnataka**

3445. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government for the development of tourism in Karnataka with the assistance of Japan during 1992-93; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). The State Govern-

ment of Karnataka has sent a proposals to Government for development of infrastructural facilities at selected tourist spots in Karnataka with financial assistance from the overseas Economic Corporation Fund of the Government of Japan. The estimated cost of the proposal is Rs. 110.6 crores.

[*Translation*]

**Telephones and Post Offices in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Haryana**

3446. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL:  
SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:  
SHRI S.N. VEKARIA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Haryana where telephone and post-offices have been provided during the last three years;

(b) the time by which the said facilities are likely to be provided in all village Panchayats of Faridabad and Gurgaon districts of Haryana, Nanded district in Maharashtra and Rajkot District in Gujarat; and

(c) the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to run telephone exchanges and post offices smoothly?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Details are being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(b) (i) Provision of public telephone facility

in all panchayat villages has been planned to be provided progressively by March 1995 subject to availability of resources.

(ii) The post offices are opened keeping in view the population, distance, financial allocation and available resources as such no time frame has been fixed.

(c) Remedial steps taken are as follows:

(1) *Telephone Exchanges*

(a) Constant monitoring of performance

(b) Adopting preventive and corrective maintenance practices

(c) Replacing did and worn out equipments by modern electronic equipments in a phased manner.

(2) *Post offices*

By obtaining statements of complaints and improper working.

**Hydel and Thermal Power Generation**

3447. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the ratio between the hydel power generation and thermal power generation during the Seventh Five Year Plan in the country; and

(b) the steps being taken to increase the production of hydel power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH