

(b) The areas being considered for joint work include water and soil conservation, solar energy for rural uses, quick growing trees for fuel and raw materials, photosynthetic efficiency, post-harvest technology to reduce food losses, and solar electricity.

In the area of Environment, the programmes would cover cleaning and washing of coal, gas emission from coal combustion, waste water treatment, solid waste treatment and water purification. In the area of health, joint programmes will include amongst others nutrition, metabolic and degenerative diseases, health services delivery and occupational safety. Programmes leading to evaluation of reliability of electronic components and characterisation of electronic materials will be developed.

#### Indo-Italian Joint Venture Projects

\*45. SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

- whether a number of Indo-Italian joint venture projects are to be established in India;
- if so, the outlines thereof; and
- how far these joint ventures would be based on availability of the raw materials in India?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI T. A. PAI): (a) to (c) During the recent Indo-Italian Joint Commission meeting held in New Delhi, discussions were held between the two sides, *inter alia*, for exploring the possibilities of manufacture in India of the following items with Italian collaboration:

- Iron ore pellets,
- Leather/Leather goods,
- Mica Paper.

(d) Castings/forgings for Compost manufacturing plants.

(e) Aluminium (treatment process).

(f) Jute mill machinery.

All these proposals envisage use of raw materials available in India.

Government have already approved in recent years collaboration arrangements between Indian and Italian parties for manufacture in India of various items such as textile machinery, man-made fibre, man-made fibre making machinery, auto ancillaries, diesel engines, readymade garments, electrical equipment, oxygen tents, tyre moulds, gas cylinders, rotary screen printing machines, auto tyre/tube valves, drugs, leather shoes, abrasive grinding wheels, butterfly valves etc.

#### New rules regarding Casual Artistes

\*47. SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- whether some new rules have been framed regarding casual artistes;
- the particulars of the transfer policy in respect of casual artistes;
- the steps taken to regularise the *ad hoc* appointees who are serving there for more than 10—12 years; and
- when such employees are likely to be absorbed permanently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a). No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Casual artistes are engaged to meet day-to-day programme commitments and also *ad hoc* and short-term staff requirements of AIR's stations/offices. As such the question of their transfer from their place of posting, regularisation or permanent absorption, normally does not arise.

There is no casual artist in AIR serving continuously for 10 years or more.

**A.I.R. decision not to play a famous Malayalam song**

\*48. **SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that the A.I.R. had decided not to play on radio the famous Malayalam song which begins with "Prananthan Enikku Thanna....", written by one of the outstanding classical Malayalam writers, late Irayemman Thampi and recorded for a modern film "Enippadikal";

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there was an uproar against this decision in Malayalam Press and literary circles; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) When the song was broadcast for the first time, there was objection from the public as to the erotic content of the song. The song was then referred to Local Audition Committee who opined that the song was not fit for broadcast.

(c) The action was criticised in a section of the film Press. No comments have been reported from literary circles.

(d) The matter is under consideration.

2689 LS-2

**Commissioning of Idukki Hydro-Electric Project in Kerala**

\*51 **SHRI C. JANARDHANAN:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Idukki Hydro-electric Project in Kerala was commissioned by Prime Minister in February this year; and

(b) whether Central Government has allocated sufficient funds in the 1976-77 Annual Plan outlay for the speedy completion of the next phase of this project?

**THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI K. C. PANT):** (a) and (b). The Idukki Hydro Electric Project was dedicated to the Nation by the Prime Minister on the 12th February, 1978 with the commissioning of the first generating unit. The next stage of the project to be taken up is stage III for which the quantum of funds to be provided for in 1976-77 is under consideration.

**Pancheshwar Hydrel Project**

\*52. **SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pancheshwar Hydrel Project will benefit both India and Nepal; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI K. C. PANT):** (a) and (b). Yes Sir. The Pancheshwar Hydro-electric project as envisaged will afford a firm annual energy generation of about 5,200 million kWh in the first stage and 4,800 million kWh in the second stage. In addition there would be benefits from the regulated flow of waters.

**Profits made by Paper Producers**

\*56. **SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a study made